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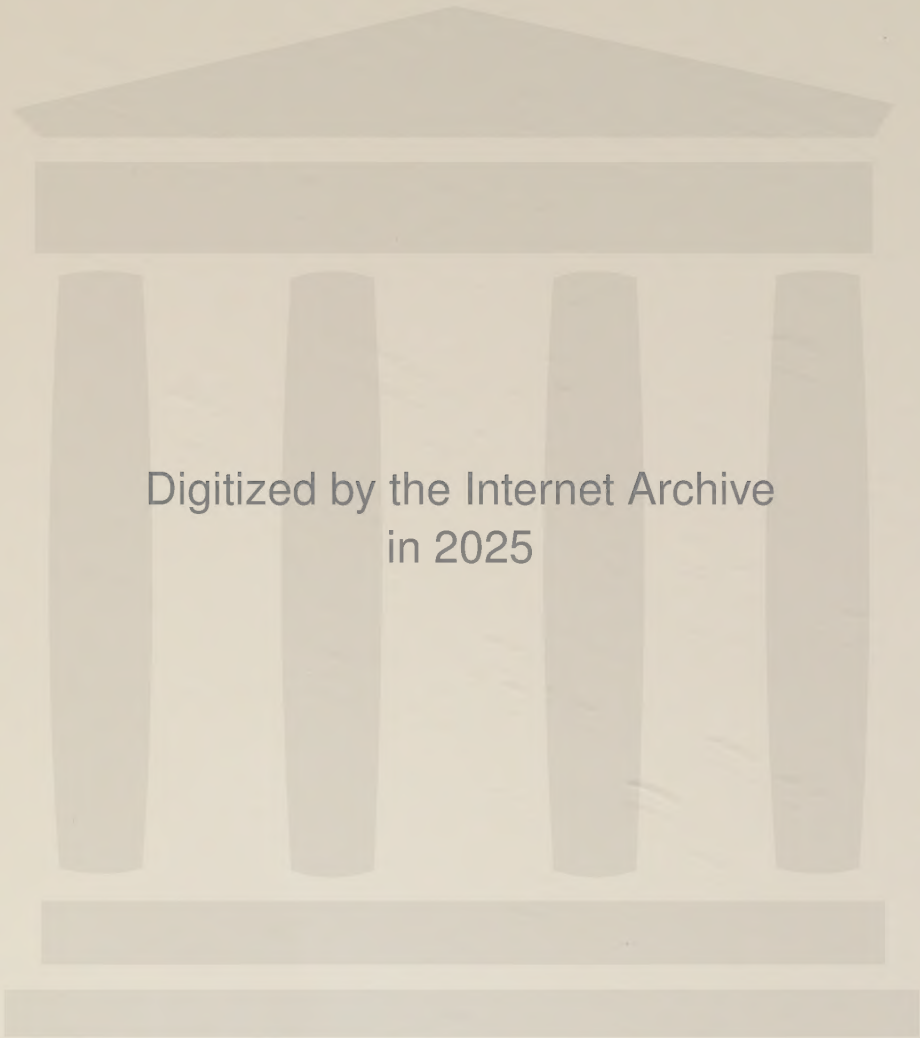
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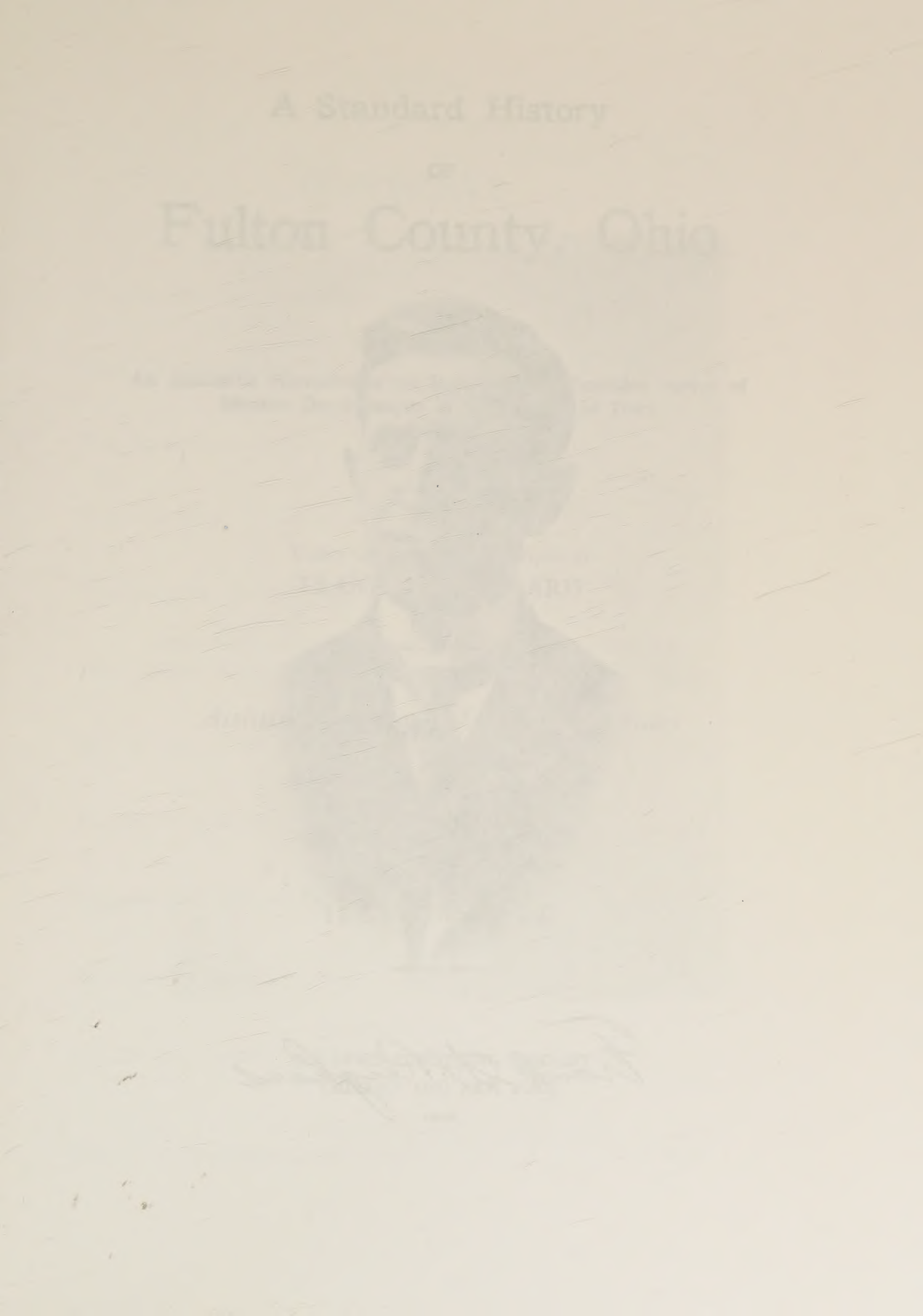

Frank H. Reighard

A Standard History

OF

Fulton County, Ohio

An Authentic Narrative of the Past, with an Extended Survey of Modern Developments in the Progress of Town and County.

Under the Editorial Supervision of

FRANK H. REIGHARD

Assisted by a Board of Advisory Editors

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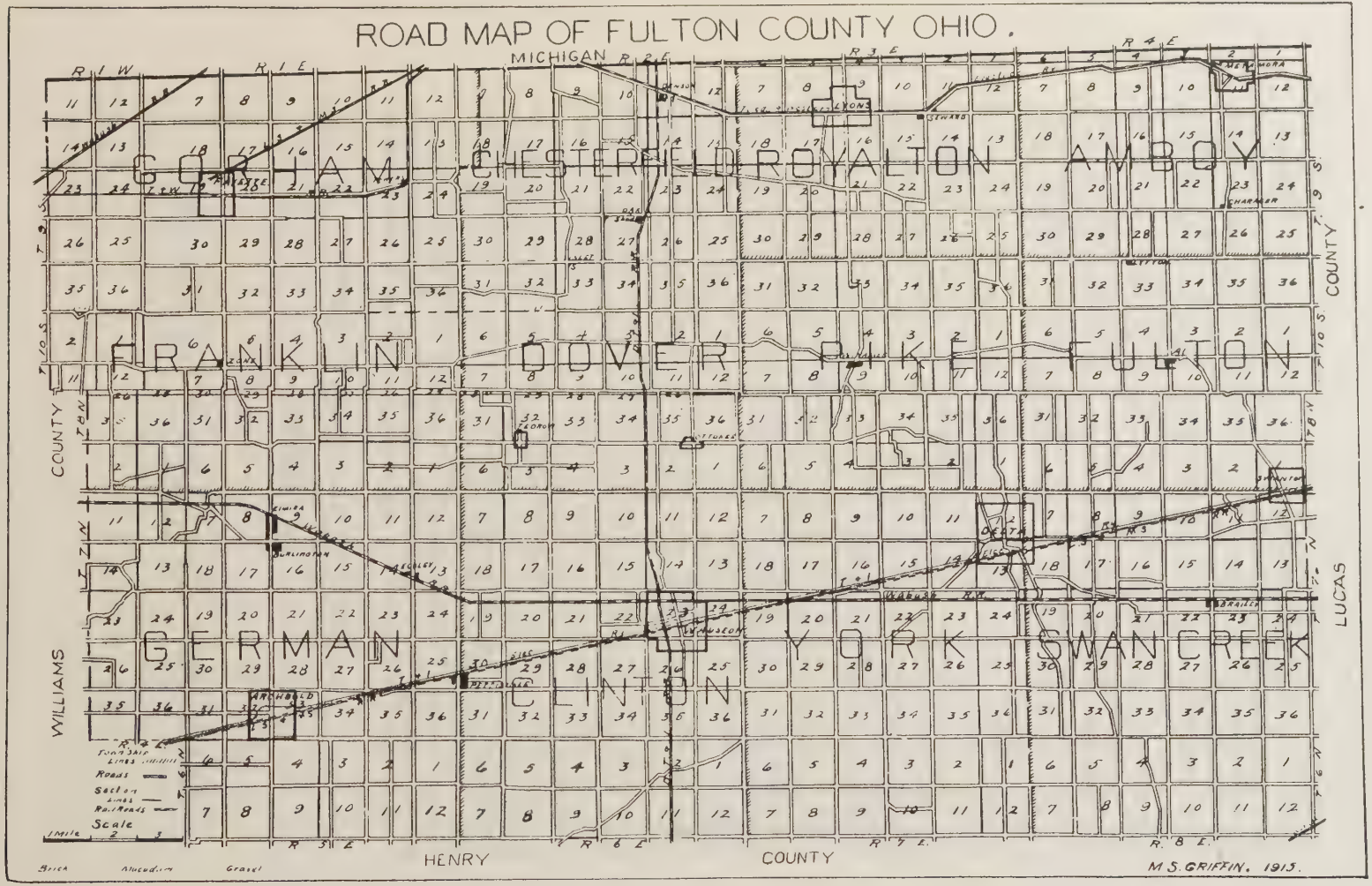

ROAD MAP OF FULTON COUNTY OHIO.
MICHIGAN
GORHAM
CHESTERFIELD
ROYALTON
AMBOY
FRANKLIN
DOVER
PIKE
FULTON
GERMAN
YORK
SWAN CREEK
CLINTON
WILLIAMS
LUCAS
COUNTY
HENRY
COUNTY
Roads
Section Lines
Railroads
Scale
1 Mile
M.S. GRIFFIN. 1913.

History of Fulton County

CHAPTER I

FULTON COUNTY ANTIQUITIES

While the main purpose of this current writing is to record specifically and extensively the direct history of that part of Ohio now known as Fulton county, placing chiefest importance upon the inclusion of that part of its annals not embodied in other historical works, the compilation, to be comprehensive, should include, as a preface to the direct historical narrative, a review, necessarily brief, of events of anterior date, historic and prehistoric, analogous thereto; which requirement the compiler has endeavored to meet.

It is more than probable that the white settlers of the period since 1832, and the Indians of prior domiciliation, were not the only terretenants of the region which now is Fulton county; there are, or have been, evidences in the county, and in other parts of Ohio, to give credence to the supposition that a prehistoric human race peopled the region. The mounds of Winameg, and other places, seem to point to the presence of earlier human inhabitants than the Indian tribes encountered by the first white explorers. The bones of the mastodon have been found in many parts of northwestern Ohio, one of the most perfect specimens of the prehistoric monster being discovered a few miles southeast of Wauseon; and, from such evidence of the presence of pachydermatous mammalia in the region in prehistoric times, it may well be assumed that the highest form of animal life, i. e., man, also was existent. Implements, such as were used by men of primitive days in other parts, have been found in northwestern Ohio, near the fossilized remains of animals known to be of the glacial period; and in many other evidences theorists are supported in the belief that in prehistoric times a human race lived in the territory which now is Fulton county.

The petrography of many boulders present in Ohio, and foreign to the natural rock formation of the region have interested geologists, who estimate the age of the boulders to be from 25,000,000 to 150,000,000 years, and state that they were of glacial transportation; while evidences of very early geological ages point to the probability that the Gulf of Mexico once extended to the region.

Several mounds similar to those at Winameg have been found along the Maumee River; but those of Winameg have, of course, direct place in Fulton county history. They were, in 1892, the subject of special investigation and report by a worthy Fulton county resident, Judge Wm. H. Handy, and his report is the most authentic descrip-

tion of an interesting phase of Fulton county history, and should be placed on record. Judge Handy reported, in part, as follows:

"In the past week one fact has been demonstrated, viz: that a great lost race, which for want of a better name has been named the 'Mound Builders,' once inhabited Fulton county. Until now, no works in Ohio, north of the Allen county north line, or west of the Lucas county west line, have ever been certainly identified as the work of that people.....Today, on the banks of Bad Creek, overlooking the famous council grounds of the Pottawattamies, on which stands the historic Council Oak of the Red Indians, we have located and identified eleven mounds of the Mound Builders, and the site of the twelfth.... ..For more than half a century.....Hon. D. W. H. Howard..... on whose farm, and in whose orchard, most of them (the mounds) are.....has zealously guarded them from vandalism, permitting no one, in any way, to interfere with them, further than to cultivate the ground.....The mounds are located on the southeast quarter of the northwest quarter of section 9, town 10 south, range 3 east, in Pike Township, Fulton county.....They are built on a high ridge, containing five or six acres of land, and following the highest outer elevation of the bluff, with three exceptions.....

"No. 1 (mound) is nearly covered by Mr. Howard's wood house, and is built on the southern edge of the bluff. A distinct and well defined terrace appears on the north side of the mound. No. 8, in the road, has almost been obliterated. The balance, while their outlines are somewhat indistinct, can be easily seen. The soil is a top-dressing of light sand, mixed however, at a depth of six or seven inches, with gravel. Long years after these mounds were built they were exposed to the winds and rains, and consequently have lost much more by erosion than they have gained by decaying vegetation, or otherwise. And, indeed, Mr. Howard tells me that within his memory they were much higher and more distinct in their outlines than now. Besides, they were cultivated, more or less, for many years. Colonel Howard tells me that he heard old Chief Wi-na-meg, the father of the Wi-na-meg after whom that postoffice was named, and when the old chief was about ninety-five years of age, say that the oldest man did not know who made the mounds, and that nobody knew; but he thought that a great battle had been fought there and the dead buried in the mounds. Indian tradition, then, failed to account for them. If the Red Indians had built them, tradition would have brought the fact down to old Winameg, probably. But it will need no argument to convince one who has read much of the manners and customs of the Red Indians that they did not build the mounds, or other works of the 'Mound Builders'.....

"We went into these mounds with the purpose of making the excavations thorough enough to disclose their identity, their purposes, and whether they had ever been disturbed. When this had been accomplished, we quit work on each particular mound.....Our first excavation was of mound No. 5.....This mound was about thirty-five feet in diameter. About ten feet from the centre we found small pieces of charcoal. The soil, before we got to the altar, was composed of: mould, six inches; white sand, eighteen inches; yellow sand, mixed with some gravel, at the surface. At about the centre we uncovered

two altars, one a circle, the other a parallelogram, the circle lying directly south of the other. The circle was four feet in diameter; the parallelogram, as near as we could make it, four to six feet. The altars were constructed in about the same manner. First was the soil. Overlying this, one foot of baked soil-sand, baked to a light brown color. Overlying this, four inches of sand baked until it had turned a bright red. Overlying this five inches of charcoal. Above this, six inches of sand and mould.

"On the circular altar we found some remnants of human bones that had partially burned, and nothing else. On the other altar we found the bones partially burned of many different wild animals. Among the human bones on the circular altar, we found a jaw bone containing four teeth. Very near the original surface, but with the baked earth covering him, immediately under the circular altar, we found the skull and a portion of the skeleton of a man, head to the

OLD WATERING SPRING, USED BY THE INDIANS AT HISTORIC WINAMEG, AND KEPT INTACT BY THE HOWARD FAMILY.

(The mounds of the "Mound Builders," the prehistoric "great lost race" of Fulton County and Ohio, are a hundred yards, or so, to the right of the spring.)

west, and lying on his face. We have this skull, the part of the skull above the nasal bone, well preserved. Compared with the skull of an Indian found intrusively buried in Mound No. 6, we find two distinct types of man.

"This is all we found in this mound. It was noticeable that the burned sand of the altars was as dry as the dust that blows in the street, while when we came to the original soil, which had not been burned and under the altars, we found it moist. The ground of which the altars were composed had never been disturbed since the fires went out. This was demonstrated to a certainty. No digging would ever have been done without disturbing the strata, and it had never been disturbed. The baked sand, the red burned ground, the charcoal were in as perfect layers, as if placed there by the hands of a mason."

In most cases, the human bones found during the excavation crumbled upon exposure to the air; and some of the mounds had been tampered with, presumably by the Indians; but the investigation had added local proofs to others discovered in Ohio to indicate that a race earlier than that of the Indian had dominion in this part of the Western Hemisphere.

Of course the origin of the American Indian dates back far into hazy antiquity; and it is perhaps possible to link the "Mound Builders" with the Indian by supposing the differences in form and character to be reasonably and merely the ordinary process of evolution. The Mound Builders may have been the forefathers of the Indians, change in the character, and indeed in the physiognomy, of the race coming with the passing of the centuries, in much the same way as changes have taken place in form of other species of the animal kingdom, during the evolving processes of centuries of reproduction, and adaptation to location and climate.

Whether the historic mounds of Fulton county, and Ohio, were actually mounds at the time sacrificial use was made of the altars is not clear. Maybe the altars were open to the heavens. It would seem that the operation of fires in such covered spaces would hardly be tolerable. Again, the fact that many of the early human races were, in some unexplainable way, attracted to the solar system in their instinctive desire to worship something, would strengthen the thought that the early inhabitants of American territory were not mound builders at all, but people of almost Druidical convictions and religious practices. The ancient Celtic race, which originated in the Himalaya Mountains of India, might well have divided there when migration began, and just as one portion spread over the lands of Gaul, Britain, and Germany, so might another body of Celts have spread over the lands to the eastward, and passing through Tibet, Mongolia, Siberia, have reached the American continent by way of Alaska. And just as the Celts of westward migration established, in various places of settlement, evidences of Sun worship, in the huge stone circles and cromlechs still standing in France and parts of Britain, so might Celts of eastward drift have carried their Druidical practices with them, adapting their means of worship to the geological limitations of the region in which they settled. In the rocky regions of France and Britain, their circles and approaches could most conveniently be of stone; in, for instance, Ohio, where rock formations are not so near the surface, their circles and approaches would, feasibly, have been of earth, or clay. The common origin of the peoples of the earth is closer than the average person imagines. Students of the languages of the American Indian have noted a similarity in root of many Indian and Celtic words. That similarity may have come, within recent centuries, by the association of the French with the Indians in the seventeenth century; or it may have resulted from the absorption by the Indians of a Welsh party, which, it is believed, sought, earlier, to establish a colony in America. Wilkins' "History of Wales" records the sailing, in the fourteenth century, from Welsh shores of a certain Prince Madoc, who was bent on a voyage of discovery; also, that he returned some years later, bringing news of the discovery of a wonderful new land across the seas, westward. He wished to gather followers and re-

turn to the new land, and there found a colony. It is understood that he drew to his standard many Welshmen, and that, in due course, the expedition set sail. Whether Prince Madoc reached America with his band of colonists cannot even, properly, be conjectured, for no tidings ever again came of him, or of his followers; but it is not a matter for conjecture as to the land to which he referred. His discovery of "a new land across the seas" could not have been merely of a part of Ireland; that was not a new land to the clans of Wales. The coast clans of both countries had for many centuries prior to that been clashing periodically at sea, both engaged in what perhaps would, nowadays, be deemed to be piratical adventures. If Prince Madoc's expedition landed in America, it either was annihiliated by the Indians, or merged into their life. In the latter event, Welsh practices, and to some extent Welsh speech, would have some effect upon their Indian associates. However the "Mound Builders," the religious practices of which people might feasibly have been Druidical in character, were, presumably and probably, of a much earlier generation than that of the Indians who might have met Prince Madoc. It is the linking of thoughts of the Druidical ancient Britons, i. e., the Welsh and Cornish people; of the Mound Builders, with their altars; of the possible merging of Madoc's Welshmen with the American Indian of a later day—that prompts one to the thought of the possible original eastern migration of Celtic people, as hereinbefore suggested, and of the possible linking of those people with the mound builders of Ohio. In which event, the cognomination, "Mound Builders," would not properly fit the early inhabitants of Fulton county and Ohio.

However, the service rendered to the county, and nation, by Col. D. W. H. Howard, in guarding from vandalism the mounds upon his property until such time as proper investigation of them could be undertaken, is one of distinct historical value—a contribution to the archaelogical records of the nation.

CHAPTER II

EARLY JURISDICTION

Among the Indian tribes, the aborigines of which there is historical record were the Lenni Lenapes, and the Mengwe. The Lenni Lenapes held mainly to the rivers, and the Mengwe to the country bordering on the lakes of Ohio, Pennsylvania, and New York. Until finally subdued by the Iroquois confederacy, which "put petticoats on the men," and deprived them of all right to make war, change their habitation, or dispose of their land without the consent of their overlords, the Lenape, or Lenni-Lenape nation held dominion throughout the whole country west of the Hudson River, including the larger rivers of Pennsylvania, and the streams of Ohio, even as far south as the Carolinas. Their seat of government was on the Delaware, and they held autonomous power over all the tribes of the territory. Tradition has it, that sometime during the fourteenth century:

THE OLD INDIAN MISSION, WHICH STOOD ON THE BANKS OF THE MAUMEE, TWO MILES ABOVE WATERVILLE

"There came to the west bank of the Mississippi River, each journeying eastward, two nations of Indians, called respectively the Lenni Lenapes and the Mengwe. Neither knew of the journey of the other, nor had they any former acquaintance. Their first meeting was upon the river. They found the country bordering on the river to be in the possession of a numerous fierce and warlike nation of Indians calling themselves the Allegwi, who claimed all the territory for hundreds of miles around, and apparently were possessed of sufficient force to

maintain that claim. The emigrants sent messengers with presents to the chiefs and sachems of the Allegwi, and asked of them permission to cross the river and settle in their country. After a council .....the request was refused, but permission was given to the Lenapes and Mengwe to cross the river, and journey to the country far east and beyond the lands claimed by the Allegwi.....Thousands crossed the river, when, either deceived by the number of the emigrants and fearing them, or with malice in their hearts, the Allegwi fell upon them with great force, and slaughtered many, driving the others into the forests and scattering them far and wide. After a time each of the journeying nations was gathered and all united as a common people, and, returning, attacked the Allegwi, beat them in a long and terrific battle, and drove them from the country to the far south.

"FOR CENTURIES.....THE INDIAN TRIBES INHABITED THE VALLEY OF THE MAUMEE (ME-AW-MEE), AND ITS TRIBUTARIES

"The victorious forces then resumed their journey eastward, but with little feelings of friendship, for the Lenapes declared that the brunt of the battle fell upon them, and that the Mengwe hung in the rear."

Thus came the first estrangement, which finally involved the two nations in war, and eventually led to the entire subjugation of the Lenni-Lenape nation, by the powerful Five Nations, or Iroquois Confederacy, as the French named the alliance. The Five Nation tribes were supposed to have had common origin in the Mengwe, although when confederated the five tribes, or nations, were known by the names, Mohawk, Oneida, Onondaga, Cayuga, and Seneca. Eventually the Tuscarora tribe joined the league. This combination remained the supreme power among the Indian peoples for more than two cen-

turies; but long before that time the whole of the territory now embraced in the United States of America had passed, by parchment deed and declaration of discovery, if not by actual occupation, under the sovereign power and jurisdiction of nations of the white race.

According to D. W. H. Howard, "for centuries" before the Revolutionary war determined that a republic and not a monarchy should be the form of government of white people, and of course necessarily of red, the Indian tribes inhabited the valley of the Maumee (Me-aw-

LE COUREUR DE BOIS

mee) and its tributaries, the St. Mary's on the south, the St. Joseph on the north, the Au Glaize on the south, the Tiffin River, or Bean Creek, on the north, and the Turkey Foot, both north and south, and the smaller streams, such as Beaver Creek, joining the Maumee near Grand Rapids; the Tone-tog-a-nee, near the old Indian mission; and the Portage near its mouth. The Indian occupants were the Ot-ta-was,

of the valley proper, and the hunting grounds on the Au Glaize; the Pot-ta-wa-to-mies of the St. Joseph and the upper portions of the Tiffin River, and the hunting grounds on the Raisin River, and along the eastern shore of Lake Michigan. The Pottawatomies were closely related with their neighbors, the Ottawas on the south, and the Ogibewas on the north, whose lands and hunting grounds adjoined theirs. The Mi-am-ies were on the upper Wabash and the Ell rivers; smaller bands of We-aws and Pi-an-ki-shaws made their home on the lower St. Mary's River; the Wyandottes on the Sanduskies, the Tousaint and their branches; the Shaw-won-no (Shawnees) on the Hog Creek and upper Blanchard's fork of the Au Glaize. These tribes were all part

Map showing Military Posts, Forts, Battlefields and Indian Trails in Ohio.

of the Five Nations Confederacy, one of the main purposes of which league of nations was the necessity of preserving a united front to combat the encroachments of white men into their hunting grounds.

It is believed that the first attempt by white people to settle within the territory now within the jurisdiction and borders of the State of Ohio was in the seventeenth century; of greater interest however to the people of Fulton county is the fact that the attempted settlement was in the Maumee Valley. It was in, about, the year 1680 that some adventurous Frenchmen established themselves along that river, constructing a small stockade not far from its mouth. By right of discovery, and by virtue of a "concession in perpetuity" made by Pope Alexander VI, however, Spain claimed a priority to all of northwest Ohio; indeed the same concession, or another by the same papal authority, deeded in blank to the Kings of Castile and Leon practically the

whole of the American continent, north and south, known or unknown. Francis I, King of France, however, disputed the claims of Spain and Portugal, refusing to recognize papal authority to so convey lands; and the French probably were in Ohio territory many decades before the British came. The original claim of France was based on the discovery of the St. Lawrence River by Cartier, in 1534, and confirmed by the subsequent explorations of Champlain, La Salle, Joliet, and others. France reasoned that the discovery of a river established a right to all the territory drained by that waterway and its tributaries. Hence the claim of France to the valleys of the Maumee and Sandusky, these waters being tributary to the St. Lawrence. Champlain visited the Wyandottes, or the Hurons, at their villages on Lake Huron, in 1615, when he remained with them several months. And he is supposed to have travelled along the southern shores of Lake Erie. Louis Joliet also is believed to have sailed on that lake; and it is surmised that Chevalier de La Salle journeyed up the Maumee River, and then down the Wabash to the Ohio and the Mississippi in the year 1669. La Salle is generally credited as the first white man to discover the Ohio, and he built the first Fort Miami, near the site of Fort Wayne, on his return overland. In 1668 St. Lusson at Sault Ste Marie, formally, in the name of God and France, and in the presence of representatives of many Indian tribes, proclaimed possession of "Lake Huron and Superior and all countries, rivers, lakes, and streams contiguous and adjacent thereunto, both those that have been discovered and those which may be discovered hereafter, in all the length and breadth, bounded on one side by the seas of the north and west, and on the other by the South Sea . . ."

Jesuit fathers, and coureurs des bois, two classes so opposite in character and purpose penetrated almost the entire Northwest Territory, not at the same time of course; and of the two classes, the Jesuit fathers made a lesser impression upon the Indian. The degenerate French adventurers, les coureurs des bois, with their stocks of brandy, trinkets and baubles and their carefree, roving, happy-go-lucky ways, were welcomed by the Indians, and received into their life, and were it not for the fact that the British treated the powerful Iroquois Confederacy with greater respect and circumspection than they showed other Indian tribes, and also the fact that the French devoted their efforts more to the Huron tribe, thus inculcating in the Iroquois mind a vindicative antipathy to the French people in general, the result of the struggle for supremacy in America between the French and the British would have been much different. The French laid claim to all of the Northwestern Territory, while the British claimed the whole of the continent as far west as the Mississippi River, and as far north as a line drawn directly west from their most northerly settlement on the Atlantic Coast. Thus Northwest Ohio became part of the disputed territory.

In 1700, the British governor of New York made the following report to the home government: "The French have mightily imposed on the world in the mapps they have made of this continent, and our Geographers have been led into gross mistakes by the French mapps, to our very great prejudice. It were as good a work as your Lordships could do, to send over a very skillful surveyor, to make correct mapps

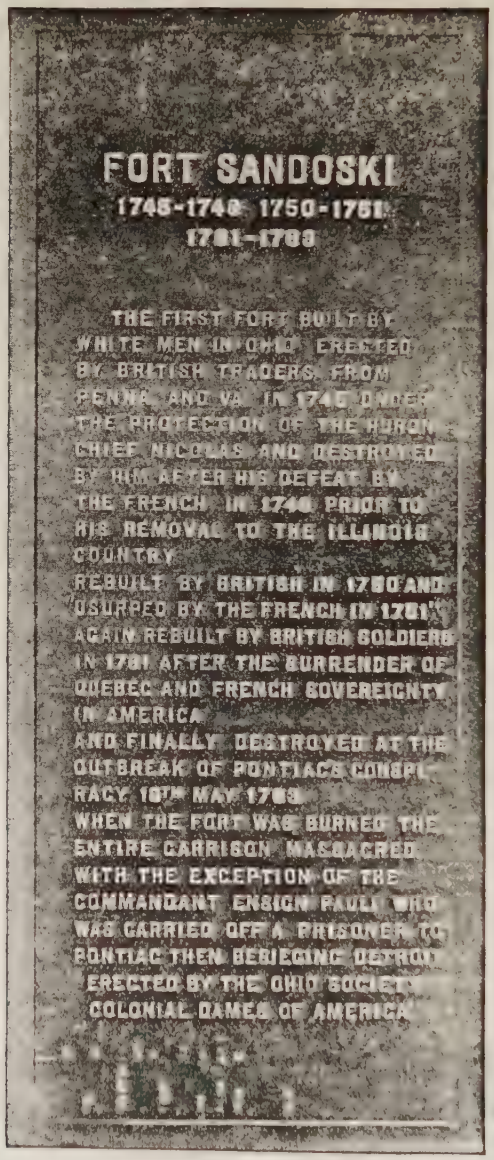
of all these plantations, and that out of hand, that we may not be cozen's on to the end of the chapter by the French."

Thereafter, the British paid more heed to cartagraphy, and as the decades passed added to the extent of their surveys. In Evans' map (1755) the Maumee and Sandusky rivers, and some of their tributaries, are pretty well outlined. Over the greater part of Northwest Ohio is printed the following: "These parts were by the Confederates (Iroquois) allotted for the Wyandottes when they were lately admitted into their league." The British also endeavored to cultivate trading with the Indians, the purpose being of course chiefly political. As early as 1740 traders from Virginia and Pennsylvania journeyed among the Indians of the Ohio and tributary streams to deal for peltries. They threaded their way through the forests or along streams as far north

"BROAD PLAINS, BLACKENED WITH BUFFALO, BROKE THE SAMENESS OF THE WOODLAND SCENERY."

as Michilimackinack, and sought to curry favor by out bidding the French for the peltries, at the same time selling merchandise to the Indians at lower prices. England based her claims on the discoveries by John Cabot, who left Bristol, England, in 1498, reaching American shores the same year, many decades, therefore, before the buccaneer Cartier first entered the St. Lawrence River. For nearly a century the two European powers contended actively for supremacy, the British surely colonizing the eastern states, and the French seeming to be making vast strides in the interior. Northwest Ohio at that time was stated to have been a region where "one vast continuous forest shadowed the fertile soil, covering the land, as the grass covers a garden lawn, sweeping over hill and hollow in endless undulation. Green intervals, dotted with browsing deer, and broad plains blackened with buffalo,

broke the sameness of the woodland scenery. Many rivers seamed the forest with their devious windings. A vast lake washed its boundaries, where the Indian voyager, in his birch canoe, could descry no land beyond the world of waters."


FORT SANDOSKI
1745-1748 1750-1751
1761-1763
THE FIRST FORT BUILT BY
WHITE MEN IN OHIO ERECTED
BY BRITISH TRADERS FROM
PENNA AND VA IN 1745 UNDER
THE PROTECTION OF THE HURON
CHIEF NICOLAS AND DESTROYED
BY HIM AFTER HIS DEFEAT BY
THE FRENCH IN 1748 PRIOR TO
HIS REMOVAL TO THE ILLINOIS
COUNTRY
REBUILT BY BRITISH IN 1750 AND
USURPED BY THE FRENCH IN 1751
AGAIN REBUILT BY BRITISH SOLDIERS
IN 1761 AFTER THE SURRENDER OF
QUEBEC AND FRENCH SOVEREIGNTY
IN AMERICA
AND FINALLY DESTROYED AT THE
OUTBREAK OF PONTIACS CONSPI-
RACY 16TH MAY 1763
WHEN THE FORT WAS BURNED THE
ENTIRE GARRISON MASSACRED
WITH THE EXCEPTION OF THE
COMMANDANT ENSIGN PAULI WHO
WAS CARRIED OFF A PRISONER TO
PONTIAC THEN BESIEGING DETROIT
ERECTED BY THE OHIO SOCIETY
COLONIAL DAMES OF AMERICA

At the opening the eighteenth century, efforts of both the French and British seem to have been focused on the Maumee River. Its easy route to the south and southwest, caused both people to diligently seek the favor of the Indians dwelling along its banks. The French Post Miami, near the head of the Maumee, had been built about

1680-86. It was rebuilt and strengthened, in 1697, by Captain de Vincennes; and it is claimed that the French constructed a fort a few years earlier, in 1680, on the site of Fort Miami, a few miles above the mouth of the Maumee. Fort Pontchartrain, at Detroit, was built in 1701, and many French expeditions, military and commercial, passed up and down the Maumee River. From Post Miami they would portage across to the Wabash, and from there descend to Vincennes, an important French post. At the beginning of King George II's war, M de Longueville, French commandant at Detroit, used the Maumee River route, in passing with soldiers and Indians into Indiana; while in 1727, Governor Spotswood, of Virginia requested the British authorities to negotiate a treaty with the Miamis, on the Miami of the Lakes, so that a small fort might be built, which plan however was not carried out.

"They portaged across from Post Miami to the Wabash."

Twenty years later, Orontony, or Nicholas, a Wyandot chief, whose stronghold and villages were near the mouth of the Sandusky River, where he permitted the British to erect Fort Sandoski, which was the first real fort erected by white men in Ohio, conceived a plan whereby he hoped to capture Detroit and all other French outposts and annihilate the French power in the West. He enlisted in the adventure many neighboring tribes, the Ottawas, Chippewas, Pottawatomies, from Fulton county, and the Shawnees, as well as more distant tribes. The Miamis and Wyandots were to sweep the French from the Maumee country; the Pottawatomies were to operate in the Bois Blanc islands, and other tribes were to attack the settlement at Green Bay. The plot was discovered before serious happenings could occur to the French; and in the following year Nicholas and his followers went further west, into Illinois.

In the spring of 1749 Celeron journeyed down the Ohio, taking

possession of the country in the name of his sovereign, and burying leaden plates asserting the sovereignty of France. The last plate was buried at the mouth of the Great Miami River. From Pickawillany (Pkiwileni) they portaged to Fort Miami (Fort Wayne) and although Celeron went overland to Detroit, his followers descended the Maumee. In the following year, Christopher Gist, emissary for the British, accomplished very much more, entering into treaty relations with the Miamis, or Twightwees, as they were called by the British.

The many decades of strife between the French and British were fought elsewhere than in Northwest Ohio; or rather, no major battles were fought in that region. In 1752, French Canadians and Indian allies ascended the Maumee and Auglaise, capturing and destroying Pickawillany, where eight English traders were, the chief of the Pienkeshaws, known as "Old Britain" being slain, that being perhaps the most serious casualty the British suffered in that raid. "Old Britain," it has been stated, was boiled and eaten by the victors. The Turtle succeeded him as chief.

With Braddock's defeat, the British prestige was shaken, and some of the Indian tribes, formerly sympathetic to the British, veered

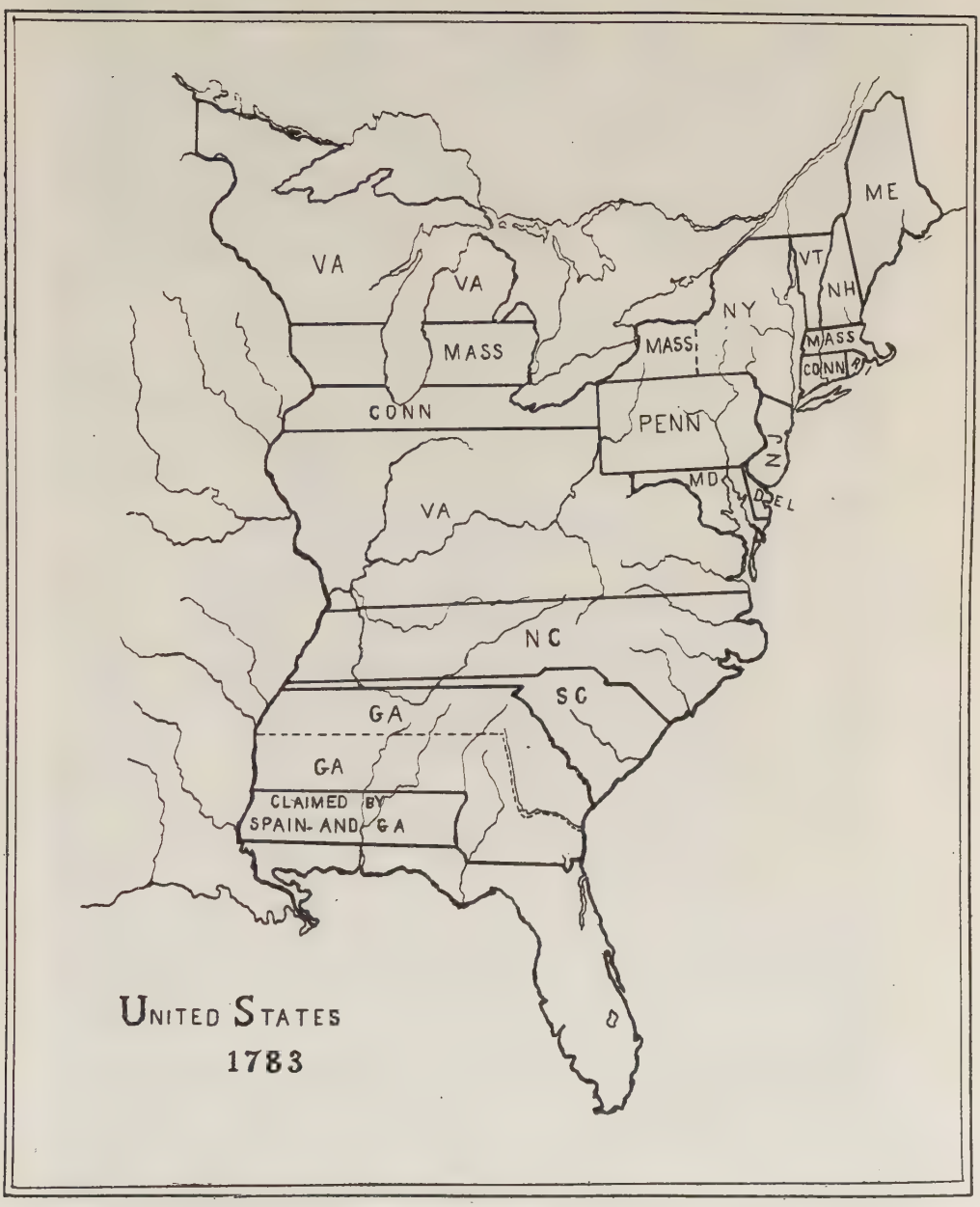
to the French side. It also brought serious unrest among the Indian tribes, but was responsible for the uniting of Ohio tribes to more determinedly oppose the British. It brought prominently into history an Indian leader classed as "one of the greatest chiefs" of which there is record in American history. Pontiac who was born near the Maumee River, and whose home and stronghold was the Maumee Valley, was of the Ottawa tribe, in paternal descent, and eventually "was greatly honored and revered by his subjects." With the passing of the French from Ohio territory, the British policy underwent radical change. Whereas formerly, when in competition with the French, they distributed blankets, rifles, and brandy with lavish hand among the Indians, their attitude, with the political change, was, to say the least, parsimonious. The expedition of Rogers' Rangers, in the fall of 1760, was the first act of British authority over Northwestern Ohio, and although he contrived to prevent friction with the Indians under Pontiac in that year, he could not shake Pontiac's conviction that unless France was aided to retain her foothold in the region, the eventual destruction of the Indian race was inevitable. He rallied the remotest tribes to his side by his message, which in substance was: "Why do you suffer these dogs in red clothing to enter your country and take the land the Great Spirit has given you? Drive them from it. Drive them."

Pontiac's conspiracy was carried on in great secrecy and he planned to have the attacks on the various forts made simultaneously. The Maumee post, Presque Isle, Niagara, Pitt, Ligonier, and every British fort was hemmed in by Indian tribes, "who felt that the great battle drew nigh which was to determine their fate and the possession of their noble lands." The first intimation the British had of the conspiracy was in March, 1763, when Ensign Holmes, commandant of Fort Miami, at the head of the Maumee, "was informed by a friendly Miami that the Indians in the vicinity had lately received a war belt, with the urgent request that they destroy him and his garrison, and that they were even then preparing to do so." Ensign Holmes confronted the chiefs, demanded the belt, and it was delivered to him. He forwarded it to his superior officer, Major Gladwyn, at Detroit, with the comment: "This Affair is very timely Stopt, and I hope the News of a Peace will put a stop to any further Troubles with these Indians." One morning however, Ensign Holmes was decoyed to "a number of Indian lodges . . . not far removed from the fort," and there treacherously slain. The Indians then overran the fort. On the 16th of May, Fort Sandusky was stormed, and the garrison massacred, entrance having been gained by typical Indian treachery. All the outposts of the British, with the exception of Detroit which successfully withstood a protracted siege, were destroyed, and settlers, throughout Ohio were murdered. The effort availed the Indians nothing, however. The receipt by Pontiac of a belt of wampum from "their great father, the King of France." while the conspiracy was still in embryo, had encouraged Pontiac to believe that the French king "had heard the voices of his red children," and would again take up arms with them; but when after much blood had been spilled, and the British were still in possession of Detroit, Pontiac received a letter from the French commander, informing him "that the French and English were now at peace," his rage was terrifying, his disappoint-

ment extreme. "He saw himself and his people thrown back upon their own slender resources." It has been stated that "for hours no man or woman dared approach him, so terrible was his rage. His fierce spirit was wrought into unspeakable fury." In rage and mortification, he soon afterwards removed his camp from Detroit, and returned to the Maumee River. Some time later, he went into Illinois territory, where the French still were, but they were no longer his allies for warlike operations, he found. His final submission was given to Sir William Johnson, at Oswego. That official "wrapped in his scarlet blanket, bordered with gold lace, and surrounded by the glittering uniforms of the British officers, was seen, with hand extended in welcome to the great Ottawa, who, standing erect in conscious power, his rich plumes waving over the circle of his warriors, accepted the proffered hand, with an air in which defiance and respect were singularly blended."

Pontiac returned to the Maumee, and "yielded more and more to the seduction of the firewater." In 1789 he appeared at the post of St. Louis, and a few days later, visited an assemblage of Indians at Cahokia, on the opposite side of the river. He had donned the full uniform of a French officer, one which had been presented to him by the Marquis of Montcalm. Undoubtedly he still harboured resentment against the British, but whether he had planned further resistance is not known. At all events, his career ended there, for a Kaskaskia Indian buried a tomahawk in his brain. His tribesmen exacted a bloody revenge; the Sacs and the Foxes practically exterminating the Kaskaskias.

In July, 1772, the Ohio Indians formed a strong confederacy on the Pickaway Plains, the Shawnees, Wyandots, Miamis, Ottawas, Delawares, and some western tribes uniting for mutual protection. They disputed the right of the Iroquois Confederacy to convey a title to the British for all the hunting grounds south of the Ohio. During the next two years "many inhuman and revolting incidents occured," but then peace again reigned, and the decision of the Indians to remain loyal to the British was destined to greatly increase the difficulties of the American colonists when they revolted from British authority. During the first two years of the Revolutionary War, the Ohio Indians were inactive, not understanding the quarrel between the British colonists and the British nation. But eventually they were drawn into the struggle, on the side of the British. Henry Hamilton, who arrived at Detroit, in December, 1775, to take up administrative control of British affairs in that territory, by virtue of his appointment to the newly created office of lieutenant governor and superintendent of aborigine affairs, was in supreme control of the British and Indian operations in the territory, although the Indian operations being what might be classed as guerilla warfare were undertaken upon their own initiative, assisted undoubtedly by an ignoble group of renegade colonists, Simon Girty, Alexander McKee, and Matthew Elliott. In 1778, the British organized a large expedition, "consisting of fifteen large bateaux and several smaller boats, which were laden with food, clothing, tents, ammunition, and the inevitable rum, together with other presents for the savages." There were 177 white soldiers, and a considerable number of Indians. It required sixteen days for the forces to ascend



UNITED STATES
1783

the Maumee, to its head, and it was destined to suffer defeat in an attack by American troops, under Colonel Clark, who captured the governor, Henry Hamilton. The latter was sent, with all of his officers, to Virginia. Two years later, the British organized a larger expedition of Indians, Capt. Henry Bird being in command, with the three Girtys, as guides and scouts. The expedition, one thousand strong eventually, ascended the Maumee, to the mouth of the Auglaize, which river they traversed as far as navigable. Many settlers were massacred, Captain Bird being unable to control the Indians. He took many prisoners in Kentucky, and eventually returned to Detroit, by way of the Maumee.

In 1778 the Legislature of Virginia organized the Northwestern Territory into the country of Illinois, and eastern states claimed territory also west of the Alleganies. Finally, it was recommended that the states ceded their claims to the newly organized Union, and Congress, in 1780 provided that the territory so ceded should be disposed of for the benefit of the United States in general. New York State was the first to respond, assigning her western claim in 1781. Virginia, in 1784, ceded to the United States her claim to the country northwest of the Ohio River; in 1785 Massachusetts gave up her claims to all Ohio territory, excepting Detroit and vicinity; and in 1786 Connecticut waived her rights, excepting the section designated as the Western Reserve.

Simon Girty was one of the bitterest enemies of the new republic. He, a renegade, depraved, cruel, pitiless, exercised much influence over the Indian, and will ever be remembered, in execration, for his part in the torture and death of Colonel William Crawford, in 1782. His last expedition against the Americans was in 1783, when he led a band of red men to Nine Mile River, within five miles of Pittsburg. But during the next decade, he was one of the most active influences present among the Indians to foment further trouble. In 1788, he attended an Indian council at the foot of the Maumee Rapids, and was received into the conference by the Indians as one of them. He was present at the grand council held in October, 1793, at the Glaize (Defiance), and also at the Battle of Fallen Timbers. He made good his escape, and the remainder of his life was lived in Canada, although during the War of 1812 he came back to American soil with the British troops, but fled precipitately to Canadian soil, when American troops approached Detroit. He deserved to be drawn and quartered, and perhaps dreaded some such punishment in case of capture by Americans. It is said that, when he incontinently fled, "he could not wait for the boat, but plunged his horse into the river and swam to the opposite shore."

The Treaty of Paris, concluded at Versailles in 1783, by which all the territory south of the middle of the Great Lakes and their connecting rivers, and east of the Upper Mississippi River, was granted to the United States, did not materially alter the opposition of Ohio Indian tribes to the American republic. But the infant republic was forced to protect the settlers, who were ever advancing westward. A treaty, between the United States Government and the Chippewa, Delaware, Ottawa, and Wyandot tribes, entered into at Fort McIntosh, sought to restrict the settlers, and yet curb the Indians. The limits of Indian territory, as agreed upon, were the Maumee and the Cuyahoga

Rivers, on the west and east respectively. Within that territory, which included Northwest Ohio, and practically three-fourths of the entire state, the Delawares, Wyandots, and Ottawas, were to live and hunt at their pleasure; and a settler could enter only at his peril, the treaty authorizing the Indians "to shoot any person other than an Indian, whether a citizen of the United States or otherwise, who attempted to settle upon these exempt lands." Reservations provided for military posts at the mouth of the Maumee, and at Lower Sandusky. Nevertheless, the United States Government on July 27, 1787, granted the Ohio Company 1,500,000 acres of Ohio land, for settlement, and granted tracts also to other companies. The lands granted were on the Ohio and Muskingum Rivers. Arthur St. Clair was appointed first governor,

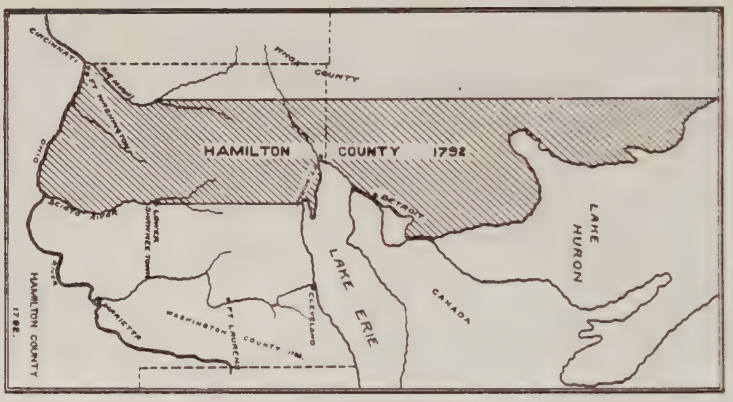
and to him was committed the perilous task of allaying the restlessness among the Indians. Eventually this was effected by the payment of a "considerable sum of money" to the Indians, who however were not those in supreme authority. Many settlers were murdered, and eventually the unrest became so serious that General Harmar was ordered, in 1790, to conduct an expedition against the Maumee towns, which were reported to be the headquarters at which all the depredations were planned. The army, under General Harmar, marched northward, from near Fort Washington, on October 4, 1790. It was composed of about 1500 soldiers, four-fifths of whom however were untrained militia. Certain Indian villages were destroyed, but the unreliability of the militia troops soon became evident, and forced General Harmar eventually to decide to return to Fort Washington, which he reached about October 30th. There was much adverse criticism, but a court of inquiry acquitted General Harmar, who, however, resigned his commission soon afterwards.

The failure of General Harmar to effect the main purpose for which the expedition had been organized, which purpose was the establishment of strong fortress communications throughout the Maumee country, caused General St. Clair to recommend the sending of another punitive expedition. Accordingly, in September, 1791, an army of 2,300 "effectives" departed, General St. Clair being in command. By the time it had reached the eastern fork of the Wabash, about a mile eastward of the Ohio-Indiana line, the effective force was only about 1400 men. And there, the next morning, the camp was suddenly attacked by Indians, who "shot down the troops, as hunters would slaughter a herd of standing buffalo." The officers could not stay the wild rout which followed. It was a far greater disaster than that which General Harmar had sustained, and altogether the casualties exceeded half of the forces engaged. General St. Clair manifested signal personal valor, but had perforce to follow his troops in retreat. The inevitable court of inquiry sat, and its history duplicated that of the Harmar inquiry, for General St. Clair was exonerated, and, like his predecessor in misfortune, he soon afterwards resigned his commission.

The defeat of two American armies, did not tend to instil into the Indian mind any clear recognition of the authority of the United States. The Maumee Indians, in particular, continued to be belligerently inclined, and not amenable to peace overtures. Almost daily, fresh and revolting stories of massacres reached Washington, and the undertaking of another expedition became imperative. Anthony Wayne was chosen to command the expedition. The choice was an excellent one, as events proved. "Mad Anthony," who gained that cognomen by a daredevil feat of an earlier day, in forcing his way into The Citadel of Stony Point at the point of the bayonet, was a soldier of well-established reputation, quick and resolute in action, an ideal Indian fighter. He proceeded to Pittsburg to organize his army, and in December, 1792, the 'Legion of the United States,' assembled at Legionville, about twenty miles below Pittsburg. General Wayne proceeded carefully. His raw troops he made into seasoned capable soldiers before he put them to the test of actual combat. He remained at Legionville, encamped, until the spring of 1793, and then the army was transported down the river, and landed at Hobson's Choice, not far from Cincinnati. There for several months the army underwent incessant drilling. There were several attempts made to effect peaceful understandings with the red men, and some were inclined to "bury the hatchet." The Maumee Indians, with whom was Simon Girty, however, met the overtures with the curt rejoinder: "If you seriously design to make a firm and lasting peace, you will immediately remove all your people from our side of the river" (the Ohio). The peace commissioners, who were at Detroit, were forced to declare the negotiations at an end. They returned to Fort Erie, and reported to General Wayne, who decided to advance without further delay. He left Fort Jefferson, and the first skirmish occurred near Fort St. Clair, south of Hamilton, where the Indians routed a small detachment, and captured about seventy horses. Proceeding carefully, General Wayne established Fort Greenville, on the present site of the town of that name. There an encampment about fifty acres in extent was fortified, and a part of the army wintered in the stockade. Regular drill and teaching of devices of Indian warfare

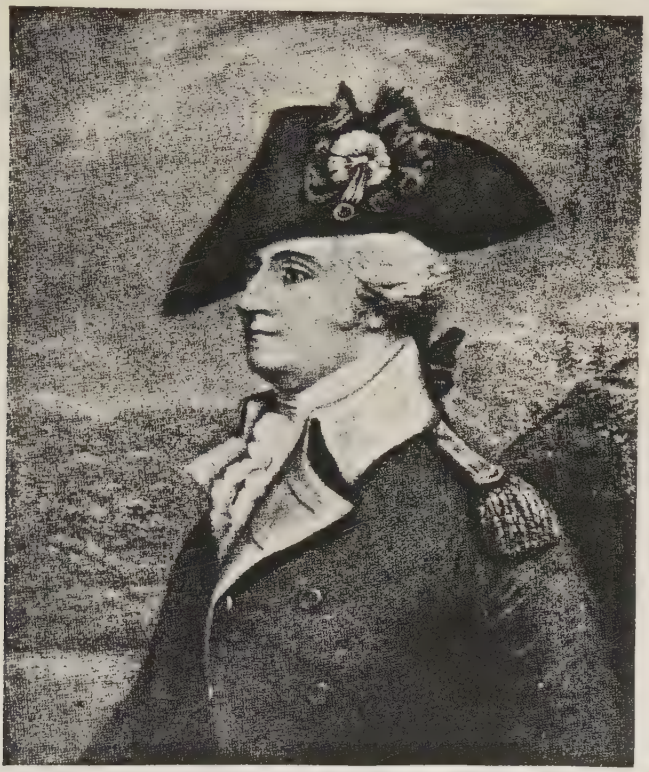
SHAWANEES
DELAWARES

were continued during the entire winter. Where General St. Clair was defeated, a detachment from General Wayne's army erected a fort, on Christmas Day, 1793. It was named Fort Recovery. The Indians undoubtedly were cognizant of every move, and it is stated were encouraged in their defiance by the British at Detroit, or at all events by British officials stationed at Detroit. It appears that the local officials, whether with the knowledge and authority of the British Government, or not, is not on record, despatched British soldiers, "three companies of Colonel England's regiment," to Maumee Rapids, to assist in building a fort there. One official wrote that this fort "put all the Indians here in great spirits" to resist the Americans. The fort was situated on the left bank of the Maumee River, within the limits of the present village of Maumee; and to Fort Miami came regular reports of the progress of General Wayne's army. It was reported: "that the army marched twice as far in a day as St. Clair's, that the troops marched in open order ready for immediate battle, and that the greatest precaution was exercised at night, by breastworks of fallen trees, etc., to guard against ambush and surprise."



On June 30, 1794, the Indians attempted to storm Fort Recovery, but were beaten back, after sanguinary fighting, which lasted for two days. This check disheartened some of the Upper Lake Indians, who began to return home. It seems that the attack had not been in accordance with the original plan of resistance to General Wayne's advance, but the opportunity and the impetuosity of the Mackinac tribesmen brought it about. General Wayne's forces had, a few months earlier been increased by 1600 Kentucky cavalrymen, so that his command exceeded 3000. All realized that defeat must not come to this, the third, expedition, and they entered into their preparations with grim seriousness. The army left Fort Greenville on July 28th, 1794, proceeding by way of Fort Recovery. The route led through the Black Swamp country, and it is thought by some that General Wayne's army passed over the ridge road near Wauseon. He certainly would select the highest ground possible, and at best, his progress in such swampy territory was slow. He halted at Girty's Town, and built Fort Adams. On August 8th they reached the confluence of the Maumee and Auglaize Rivers, seventy-seven miles distant from Fort Recovery. General

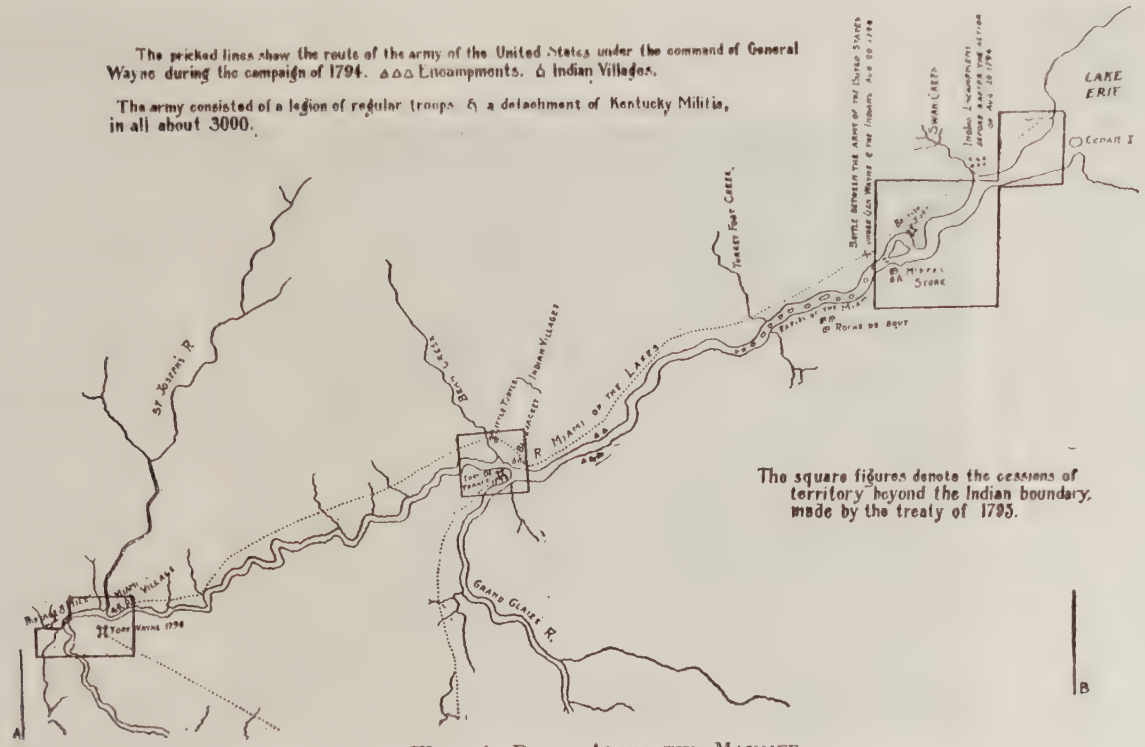
Wayne had planned to surprise the enemy at that point, but upon arrival found that the Indians had departed. It seems that General Wayne's plans were communicated to them by a deserter, and thus one of the main hopes of the American general was frustrated. Nevertheless, he was able to devastate the region, which was what might be termed one of the main granaries of the tribes of the Maumee and Auglaize. He sent strong detachments up and down the river, destroying the crops which were almost in the mature state. The Indians had acquired, from the French presumably, considerable skill in agriculture, and on the flat stretches bordering the river General Wayne found



MAJOR-GENERAL ANTHONY WAYNE

vast fields of ripe and ripening corn. In the many raids, his forces laid waste to a considerable acreage of growing crops, making the succeeding winter one of the most disastrous the Indians of the neighborhood had experienced.

At the meeting of the rivers was an ideal location for the placing of a fort. Maybe, the general had purposed erecting one there. He probably had, for he ordered the construction of it almost immediately after the arrival of the army at that important point. And in all probability the news that came to him there, that the British garrison at Detroit was expected by the Indians to take active part in opposing his advance, influenced him to erect a very strong fortification. It was constructed in eight days, and pleased the general evidently, for after


The pricked lines show the route of the army of the United States under the command of General Wayne during the campaign of 1794. ΔΔΔ Encampments. ⌂ Indian Villages.
The army consisted of a legion of regular troops & a detachment of Kentucky Militia, in all about 3000.
The square figures denote the cessions of territory beyond the Indian boundary, made by the treaty of 1795.
LAKE ERIE
Cedar I
Swan Creek
Miami Store
Roche de Bout
Turkey Foot Creek
Battle between the Army of the United States under Gen Wayne & the Indians Aug 20 1794
Indian Encampment before battle Aug 20 1794
Miami of the Lakes
Auglaize R
Blue Creek
St Joseph's R
Grand Glaize R
Fort Wayne 1794
Miami Village
A
B

GENERAL WAYNE'S ROUTE ALONG THE MAUMEE.

(This is a copy of the original map, by Dr. Belknap, which is found in the library of Harvard College. It is the only map of this campaign.)

inspecting it, he turned to one of his staff, General Scott, and exclaimed: "I defy the English, Indians, and all the devils in Hell to take it." "Then call it Fort Defiance," suggested General Scott. By which circumstance the fort, and the subsequent city upon its site, happened to be so named, it is believed.

General Wayne proved himself to be a very efficient commander; very thorough, and ever alert. He gave the Indians no chance to surprise him. His intelligence department, or system of espionage, was very effective. He was served by a capable intrepid band of scouts and spies, men of the white race but, many of them, of almost life-long Indian associations. Some of the most effective of his scouts were white men who, in boyhood, had been captured by Indians, and had grown to manhood in Indian camps, thus naturally adopting Indian ways, and becoming as proficient as Indians in the general methods of life and warfare in the wilderness. They were wont to don Indian costumes, even to the war paint, and move freely and unsuspected among the Indians. Thus, General Wayne was well served, and able to circumvent the plannings of the enemy. As he proceeded on his march, and time after time maneuvered his forces so as to give no opening for successful attack by the Indians, the latter came to speak of him as "the chief who never sleeps." Later, after the Battle of Fallen Timbers, they came to know him by another, and even more flattering, name.

At Fort Defiance General Wayne intuitively felt that a conflict with the enemy could not long be averted. His scouts advised him that below him were definite indications that the impending conflict was near. However, political considerations were ever present to effect the purpose of the American commander without further bloodshed if possible, the political position being complicated, and portentous, because of the presence of British troops on the line of march, resistance by which troops would, it was thought, inevitably involve the United States in another war with Britain. Therefore, at Washington's request, General Wayne, before leaving Fort Defiance, despatched a soldier, under a flag of truce, to the enemy's camp, bearing an offer of advantageous terms to the Indians, provided the latter no longer resisted the advance. A council of the confederated chiefs was held under a large elm tree, at the Grand Rapids of the Maumee, and although most of the chiefs were still hostile and belligerently disposed, one of the most powerful chiefs, Little Turtle (Mis-she-kence) of the Miamis, a far-seeing but brave man, was wishful to seek a peaceful solution to the trouble if possible. He argued: "We have beaten the enemy twice under separate commanders, but we cannot expect the same good fortune always to attend us. The Americans are now led by a chief who never sleeps. The night and the day are alike to him. During all the time he has been marching upon our villages, notwithstanding the watchfulness of our young men, we have never been able to surprise him. Think well of it. There is something whispers me it would be well to listen to his offers of peace." Blue Jacket, a Shawnee chieftain, is supposed to have leaped up in the council and accused Little Turtle of cowardice, whereupon the latter sought no further to plead for peace, but replied: "Follow me to battle." Colonel Howard stated, in writing of this council, that "the eloquence of the wily Pottawatomie chief, Turkey Foot (Mis-sis-sa-in-zit), and the clamor of the braves

PLAN ILLUSTRATING THE BATTLES OF THE MAUMEE

Explanations.—The map shows about 8 miles of the country along each side of the Maumee, including the towns of Perrysburgh, Maumee City and Waterville.

Just previous to the battle of the Fallen Timbers, in August, 1794, Wayne's army was encamped at a locality called *Roche de Bœuf*, a short distance above the present site of Waterville. The battle commenced at the *Presque Isle* hill. The routed Indians were pursued to even under the guns of the British *Fort Miami*.

Fort Meigs, memorable from having sustained two sieges in the year 1813, is shown on the east side of the Maumee, with the *British batteries* on both sides of the river, and above the British fort, the position, of *Proctor's encampment*.

for war, prevailed, and the council closed its deliberation at the dawn of day and declared for war." Meanwhile, General Wayne had not waited for an answer to his peace proposal. He knew the character, in war, of the Indian, and proceeded with his operations as planned while the Indians deliberated. A week after the peace messenger had been despatched, the American army left Fort Defiance, and three days later reached Roche de Boeuf, a massive frowning rock which rises from the western side of the river, about a mile above the spot where later the village of Waterville was established. It has been authenticated that General Wayne's march from Fort Defiance followed the left bank of the river, but actually how far inland from the river bank his route lay is not known. It is possible that it followed the ridge road. At

LITTLE TURTLE (MIS-SHE-KENCE) CHIEF OF THE MIAMIS.

Roche de Boeuf, which he reached on August 18th, he met his returning messenger, who carried an evasive reply from the Indians, who intimated that if General Wayne would tarry ten days longer, the tribes would treat with him for peace. Wayne detected the ruse, and knowing that the Indians were immediately before him, and preparing to attack, he resolved to ignore the request, and attack the Indians forthwith, before they could be reinforced by British or Indian forces. His scouts reported that there were at least two thousand Indians, of the Shawnee, Delaware, Wyandot, Ottawa, Pottawatomie, Chippewa, and Iroquois tribes gathered near Fort Miami, with their right resting on Swan Creek; also that the renegades McKee, Girty, and Elliott, with about seventy white rangers, disguised as Indians, from Detroit, were with them. The Indians were under the supreme joint command of Little Turtle, of the Miamis, and Blue Jacket, of the Shawnees. The former had been the chief mainly responsible for the discomfiture of

FORT DEFIANCE, AS RESTORED.

General Harmar, and the disastrous campaign of General St. Clair. Following the council under the elm tree at Maumee, the Indians swept through the woods in long columns, and took up what they deemed to be an impregnable position on, and around, Presque Isle Hill, about two miles above Maumee. The position selected was one which had many natural advantages, and strategically it was rendered more desirable for defence by the fact that during a tornado of the previous year the trees had been torn down, and lay literally an interlaced stretch of fallen timbers, between which the Indians could lie and, as they thought, safely hurl defiance at the advancing army. It was thought that cavalry, in which arm General Wayne's army was so strong, would be useless over such ground, and that thus the American force would be reduced practically to one-half its full strength. The Indians formed in three long lines, their left resting on the river, and

THE ELM, AT MAUMEE, UNDER WHICH THE COUNCIL OF INDIAN CHIEFS WAS HELD PRIOR TO THE BATTLE OF FALLEN TIMBERS, 1794

their right extending some two miles into the forest, at right angles to the Maumee. Wayne halted at Roche de Boeuf on the 19th, but at 8 o'clock on the morning of the 20th moved forward. His plan of battle included the mock defeat of his advanced line, which was to fall back, apparently in disorder, upon the main body, which then would execute quick maneuvers depending upon opportunities then disclosed. Accordingly, he sent forward a battalion of mounted Kentuckians, with orders to maintain a position far enough in advance of the main body to give the latter time to form, after the first attack. An hour later, the battle began, the cavalry being fired on by the Indians who were concealed in the long grass, and among the timbers; and as prearranged, the mounted troops fell back. General

Wayne immediately reorganized his forces, maneuvering them into two lines, with cavalry on both flanks. He then gave the front line the order to charge with trailed arms. They were to administer the cold steel to the Indians while passing over the stretch of fallen timber, then turn, fire a well-directed volley into the Indians, and again charge with bayonets fixed, and before the Indians had a chance to reload their muskets. "Mad Anthony's" tactics were those of his Revolutionary days, and his characteristic impetuosity occurred to his aide, just as the general had given the order to attack. "General Wayne" said the aide, Lt. William H. Harrison, "I'm afraid you'll get into the fight yourself and forget to give me the necessary field orders."

"Perhaps I may," responded Wayne, "and if I do, recollect the standing order of the day is, charge the d---d rascals with the bayonet."

It was very quickly over. Wayne's troops had not been drilled for so long and so thoroughly without being able to maneuver with alacrity and promptitude under fire. It has been stated that such was the impetuosity of the initial charge that the Indians and their white allies were driven from the coverts almost immediately. Prodded from their hiding places by cold steel, and subjected to a deadly fire, the impact was like that of a hurricane, and as Che-no-tin, meaning hurricane, or the wind, Wayne thereafter became known to the Indians. The American troops followed up the fleeing savages with such swiftness and fury, and poured such a destructive fire into their backs, that few of the second line of Wayne's legion arrived in time to participate in the action. "Such was the impetuosity of the first line of infantry" reported Wayne "that the Indians and Canadian militia and volunteers, were driven from all their coverts in so short a time that, although every possible exertion was used by the officers of the second line of the legion, and by Generals Scott, Todd, and Barbie, of the mounted volunteers, to gain their troops proper positions, but part of each could get up in season to participate in the action, the enemy being driven in the course of an hour, more than two miles, through the thick woods already mentioned, by less than one-half their numbers." Many of the Indians endeavored to escape by swimming the river, but they were intercepted and cut down in mid-stream by the cavalry. Surprising to the Indians also, no doubt, were the feats of the cavalrymen, who, it seems, "galloped boldly among the Indians, leaping their horses over the fallen logs, and dodging in and out among the trees" swinging their long sabres with terrible effect among the dismayed Indians. The enemy was driven to the very palisades of the British fort, Miami, the gates of which fortress, however, did not open as had been expected, to offer refuge to the defeated and pursued Indians. It has been stated that the British looked on, with apparent unconcern, at this humiliation and defeat of their former allies, which was fortunate for both Britain and America, for had the garrison at that moment shown any sign of intervening, General Wayne would have attempted to storm the fortress, and international relations would have been strained probably to beyond the breaking point. In fact, General Wayne rode to within a few hundred feet of Fort Miami, and seemed to seriously contemplate storming it. The impulse passed, his impetuosity being at most times subordinate to his responsibility. His military experience also must

have indicated to him the inadvisability of attacking, with but one small piece of artillery a fortification which mounted ten strong pieces of artillery. A letter came to General Wayne next day from the British commandant at Fort Miami, in which he, Major Campbell, stated: "I have no hesitation, on my part, to say that I know of no war existing between Great Britian and America," but he asked in what light he was to view the American action "in making such near approaches to this garrison"; to which letter General Wayne replied that his army moved "far within the acknowledged jurisdiction of the United States of America," but that "were you entitled to an answer the most full and satisfactory one was announced to you from the muzzles of my small guns yesterday morning."

An interesting insight to the battle, as viewed from the Indian side, is given in a manuscript written by Jonathan Adler, who at the time lived with the Indians. His account reads as follows:

"We remained here (Defiance) about two weeks, until we heard of the approach of Wayne, when we packed up our goods and started for the old British fort at the Maumee Rapids. Here we prepared ourselves for battle, and sent the women and children down about three miles below the fort; and as I did not wish to fight, they sent me to Sandusky, to inform the Wyandots there of the great battle that was about to take place. I remained at Sandusky until the battle was over. The Indians did not wait more than three or four days, before Wayne made his appearance at the head of a long prairie on the river, where he halted, and waited for an opportunity to suit himself.

"Now the Indians are very curious about fighting, for when they know they are going into a battle, they will not eat just previous. They say that if a man is shot in the body when he is entirely empty, there is not half as much danger of the ball passing through the bowels as when they are full. So they started the first morning without eating anything, and moving to the end of the prairie, ranged themselves in order of battle at the edge of the timber. There they waited all day without any food, and at night returned and partook of their suppers. The second morning they again placed themselves in the same position, and again returned at night and supped. By this time, they had begun to get weak from eating only once a day, and concluded they would eat breakfast. Some were eating, and others, who had finished, had moved forward to their stations, when Wayne's army was seen approaching. Soon as they were within gunshot, the Indians began firing upon them, and finding Wayne too strong for them attempted to retreat. Those who were on the way heard the noise and sprang to their assistance. So some were running from and others to the battle, which created great confusion. In the meatime, the light horse had gone entirely around, and came in upon their rear, blowing their horns and closing in upon them. The Indians now found that they were completely surrounded, and all that could made their escape, and the balance were all killed, which was no small number. Among these last, with one or two exceptions, were all the Wyandots that lived at Sandusky at the time I went to inform them of the expected battle. The main body of the Indians were back nearly two miles from the battle-field, and Wayne had taken them by surprise, and made such a

slaughter among them that they were entirely discouraged, and made the best of their way to their respective homes."

The American casualties in that battle were thirty-three killed, and about one hundred wounded. The fatalities occurred almost wholly from the first fire of the Indians, their aim then being deadly in precision. Afterwards, in a panic-stricken state, their firing was haphazard. The casualties among the Indians cannot be accurately gauged. Undoubtedly hundreds were killed. More than one hundred corpses lay on the battlefield, and many other bodies were carried away by the Indians as was their custom for burial.

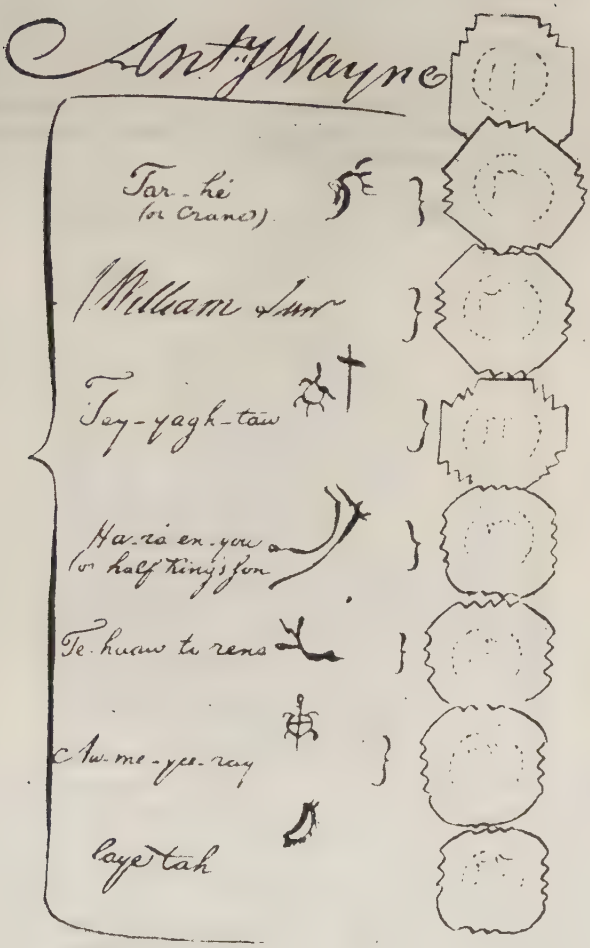
Turkey Foot, the Indian chief, lost his life in the battle. At the foot of Presque Isle Hill he endeavored to rally his warriors, and to make himself more conspicuous leaped upon a small boulder, since known as Turkey Foot Rock. Presenting so conspicuous a target, it is not surprising that he was soon wounded. He fell pierced by a

THE HISTORIC TURKEY FOOT ROCK.

musket ball, and almost immediately afterwards expired by the side of the rock.

Following the Battle of Fallen Timbers, General Wayne swept the country, destroying all Indian villages, and all crops. Subsequent history proved that General Wayne's campaign had been won when he stampeded the Indians at Fallen Timbers, and that thereafter the general attitude of the Indians to both the British and the Americans changed radically, although not suddenly.

General Wayne returned to Fort Defiance, and on November 2, 1794, reached Greenville. There, on August 7, 1795, the famous Treaty of Greenville was entered into between Anthony Wayne, representing the United States, and the principal chiefs of the Indian tribes of Ohio. More than one thousand chiefs and sachems gathered for the council, which lasted for fifty days, and was well worth the time spent in deliberation, for the Treaty of Greenville was very satisfactory in operation, both to the Indians within the territory and to "our Father, the Fifteen Fires," by which appellation the Indians knew "Uncle

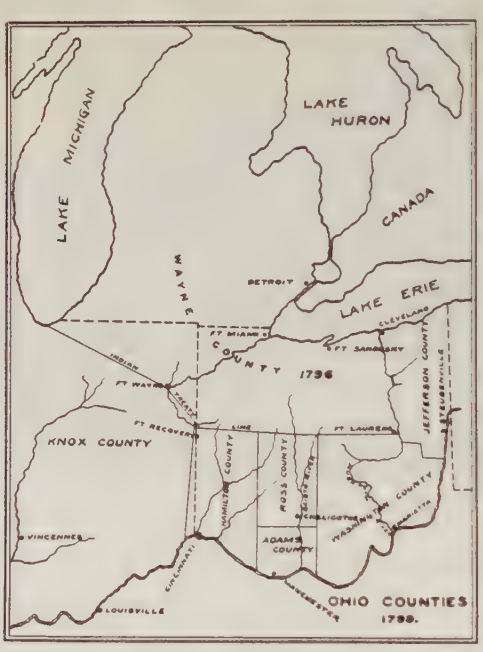


THE FIRST SIGNATURES TO THE GREENVILLE TREATY.

Sam," the name originating by the firing of fifteen guns, one for each state in the Union, as a salute, upon ceremonial occasions, during the meetings of the council at Greenville.

General Wayne died in 1796, being seized with a sudden attack of gout of the stomach while on passage down Lake Erie. He died before reaching land. It is interesting to note that one of his last acts was to receive, as representative of the United States, the Fort Miami, the British Government having resolved to formally surrender that and other posts to the rightful authority, the United States.

Thus, General Wayne was able before he died to gather the full fruits growing from his well-planned and carefully and skillfully executed campaign of 1794, which decisively and indisputably made obvious to the Indian tribes, as well as to the British Government just where the British sphere of influence and authority ended, and where those of the United States began.



A period of comparative peace and substantial civil development followed the success of General Wayne's campaign. At the close of 1796, it was estimated that there were then about five thousand white people resident within what are now the bounds of the State of Ohio. The settlers were for the most part in the southern and eastern parts of the territory; but with the establishment of a greater respect for the authority of the United States among the Indians, settlers were encouraged to settle in the western part. The Maumee and Sandusky region was organized in 1796, the British having evacuated the territory they were holding in violation of the Treaty of Versailles, the decision of the British Government to evacuate, or abandon, British posts in United States territory in the Great Lakes region having been

definitely and finally made when John Jay, U. S. Minister to England, concluded treaty with that nation in 1795. And after General Wayne had received the surrender of the fortifications from the British, the civil representatives of the Northwest Territory proceeded to Detroit, and proclaimed the establishment of the County of Wayne, the bounds of which reached far into what is now Michigan, and into Indiana, and Illinois. (Reference to the map will give a better idea of its extent.) The proclamation, creating the County of Wayne, was issued on August 15, 1796, and within its bounds came, of course, the territory now known as Fulton County.

A census taken in 1798 confirmed the impression that more than five thousand white people lived in the Northwest Territory, and that they could consequently take the privileges of representative government, in accordance with the Ordinance of 1787. Elections were held in December, 1798, and the first Territorial Legislature of Ohio convened at Cincinnati on January 22, 1799. The legislative body was

MAP OF WAYNE COUNTY
ORGANIZED 1796.

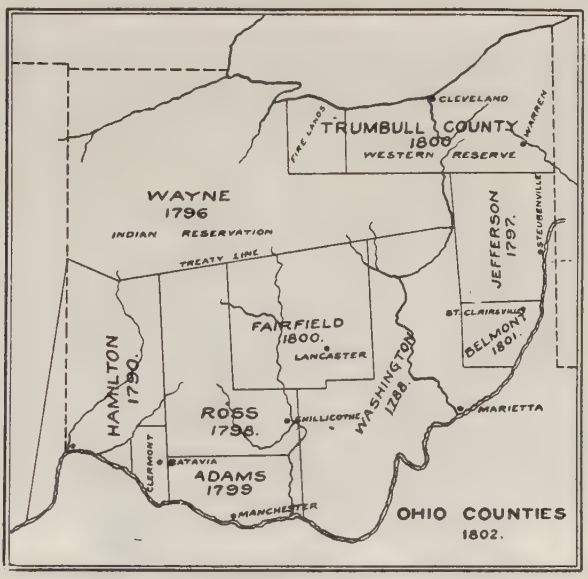
composed of twenty-two representatives of the seven counties of the Northwest Territory, which extended from the Ohio to the Mississippi, with an area as large as that of modern Texas. The Wayne County representatives in the first legislature were: Solomon Sibley, Charles F. Chaubert de Joncaire, and Jacob Visger. Wayne County consisted of four townships, of vast extent, and that in which was the Northwestern Ohio basin was named Hamtramck. The three Wayne County representatives were all of Detroit and vicinity, and it may be imagined that attendance at legislative sessions entailed not an inconsiderable degree of hardship. The members of the Legislature were compelled to carry their provisions and blankets, camp in the open at night, swim their horses across streams, and follow the blazed trails through the dense forest; and when they had at last arrived at Cincinnati they were destined to find not a well-established town, but only a small settlement founded ten years earlier by settlers from New Jersey.

By a vote of both Territorial houses, William Henry Harrison was selected to be the first delegate, or representative, of the Northwest Territory, in the United States Congress. The five development maps which are part of this chapter will give details of the important territorial arrangements and re-arrangements over the period between the Revolution and the War of 1812. Ohio was admitted to statehood on February 19, 1803, Edward Tiffin being elected its first governor. He was elected without opposition. At that time, the Maumee Valley had

Edward Tiffin, First Governor of Ohio.

practically no white settlers. A few traders and pioneers had established themselves near the watercourses, but in reality northwest Ohio had no representation in the State Government until April, 1820, when the Indian Northwest region was reorganized. Following the decisive defeat of the Indians at Fallen Timbers, and the resultant Green-

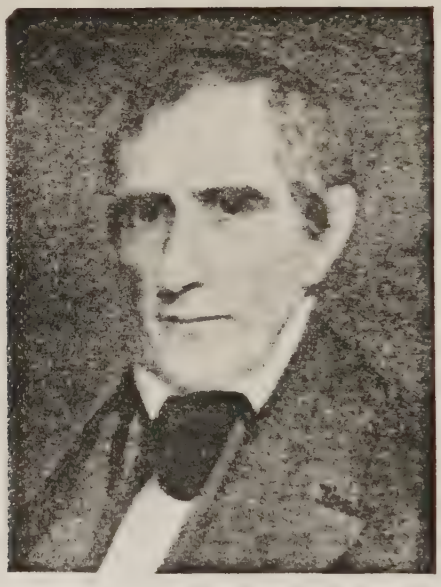
ville Treaty, the natives seemed contented with the annuities paid them by the United States Government, and although for some years garrisons were maintained in the forts established by General Wayne, the improvement in relations between the Indians and the Government gradually brought about a reduction in garrisons, and in some cases evacuation altogether of forts. Fort Miami was one of the first to be evacuated. In reality it was not necessary, for another stockade fort was built in its vicinity. The stockade fort, named Fort Industry, appears to have been built early in the nineteenth century, probably in 1804, although one historian states that it was in existence at, about, the time of the Battle of Fallen Timbers. It was built at the confluence of Swan Creek and the Maumee River, its exact site being, as nearly as it is possible now to determine, Summit street



in the City of Toledo. Clark Waggoner's "History of Lucas County" cites an official War Department letter which refers to the erection of the fort in "about the year 1800." It was at Fort Industry that a treaty was negotiated with the Indians, on July 4, 1805, by the provisions of which agreement the Indian title to the Fire Lands (Huron and Erie counties) was cancelled. Present at the conference were chiefs of the Wyandot, Ottawa, Chippewa, Delaware, Shawnee, Pottawatomie, and Seneca tribes. Another treaty, effected at Detroit in 1807, resulted in the transfer of title from the Indians to the United States of all the country north of the middle of the Maumee River, from its mouth to the mouth of the Auglaize, and thence extending north, as far as Lake Huron. Certain tracts were marked out as Indian reservations, for their exclusive use. These reservations, within what is now Northwest Ohio, were: a tract six miles square on the north bank of the Maumee, above Roche de Boeuf, "to include the village where Tondagame, or the Dog, now lives;" a tract three miles

square in the vicinity of, and including, Presque Isle; and a tract "four miles square on the Miami (Maumee) Bay, including the villages where Meskemau and Waugau now live."

Fulton county territory had in the meantime passed under the jurisdiction of other Ohio counties, although, as a matter of fact, it was unorganized territory, for the simple reason that there were no settlers within it to make organization necessary. The First State Legislature organized eight new counties, including Montgomery, Green, and Franklin; and in consequence Fulton county, by that act, which was passed March 24, 1803, became unorganized parts of Montgomery and Green counties. On January 16, 1807, the county of Miami was formed, and the Montgomery county portion of Fulton county territory passed to Miami. In 1819 the County of Shelby assumed jurisdiction over the Fulton county area.



General William Henry Harrison, afterwards President of the United States.

With the outbreak of war in 1812, three points in the west, Fort Wayne, the Wabash, and the Maumee, needed defence. The troops at the first point were under the command of General Winchester; the Wabash district was under William Henry Harrison, who had gained a notable victory over the intractable Indian chief, Tecumseh, at Tippecanoe, in 1810; while Governor Edwards of the Illinois Territory was in command on the Illinois River. In September, 1812, however, General Harrison was appointed commander-in-chief of the west and northwest. He purposed to recapture the Michigan territory lost to the British by the incredibly poor tactics of General Hull. General Harrison, then subordinate to General Winchester, proceeded without authority to the relief of Fort Wayne, which was likely to fall to the Indians, and by his prompt action averted what might

have been a bloody massacre. Immediately afterwards, he, without a murmur, relinquished his command to General Winchester, a Tennesseean of worthy Revolutionary record, but of little experience of Indian warfare. General Winchester advanced cautiously down the Maumee, and at one or two places along the river, not far from Defiance, saw indications of recent and apparently hasty retreat of British troops. In September, General Harrison was placed in supreme command, and immediately proceeded down the Auglaize with a strong force of cavalry. When he reached the camp of General Winchester, he discovered a deplorable state of affairs. A state verging almost on mutiny was present in the ranks of the army. However, after an animated address by the new and popular commander, the discontent passed, and all troops rallied enthusiastically to General Harrison.

When the troops under General Winchester reached the confluence

REAR OF FORT MIAMI.

(Fort Miami, at Maumee Rapids, was originally built by the French in 1680; was later rebuilt by the British; and was surrendered by the British, to General Anthony Wayne, in 1796.)

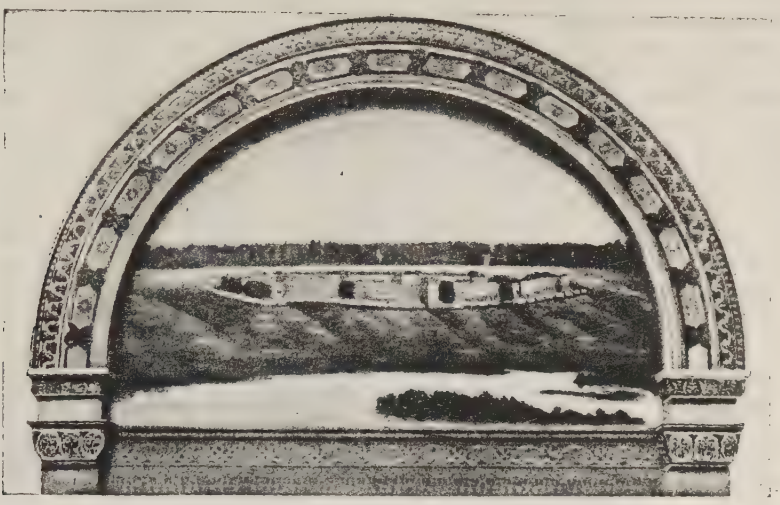
of the Auglaize and Maumee rivers, they found Fort Defiance in ruins. In any event, however, it would have been totally inadequate for the requirements of the much larger army that now needed fortifications in that strategically strong position. General Wayne's fort of 1794 could not have sheltered one-fourth of the troops which reached its site in 1812; and soon after General Harrison reached Defiance to take over the supreme command he drew a plan for a new fort a dozen times as extensive as was Fort Defiance. When erected, General Harrison named it Fort Winchester, in deference to the general who was formerly his superior officer, and whom he now superseded. Fort Winchester enclosed about three acres of land, and stood about eighty rods south of the old fort. It was erected on the precipitous left bank of the Auglaize River, and for a considerable time was the only obstruction against the incursions of the British and Indians in northwestern Ohio.

The troops suffered much during the winter campaign of 1812-13. They were clad in summer clothing, and were at times very short of food. The failure of contractors to properly provision the army prevented the undertaking of a fall campaign. Indeed, General Harrison, reporting to the Secretary of War stated: "I did not make sufficient allowance for the imbecility and inexperience of the public agents and the villainy of the contractors." General Tupper, brigadier-general of the Ohio quota of the American forces, made a raid on British and Indians in November at Maumee Rapids, at which point, according to General Winchester's original plan of campaign, the Ohio quota was to join his command; and when news came that General Tupper was at Maumee Rapids, a detachment of 400 men was sent from Fort Winchester to support him. When advance scouts reached the camp of Tupper, however, they found it deserted, and the only

Fort Miami, as it appears today.

evidence of conflict was the scalped body of an American, although there were many evidences of hasty retreat. Colonel Lewis, thereupon, decided to return to Camp No. 3, near Fort Winchester. Early in January, General Winchester finally started down the Maumee with 1,300 men. His subsequent action was contrary to the instructions of General Harrison, who had ordered him southward to Fort Jennings, to protect supplies. On the 10th of January, 1813, General Winchester reached a point opposite the site of the battle of Fallen Timbers. There he camped, and improvised some temporary fortifications. The enemy was encamped, in considerable numbers, in the vicinity of the site of Fort Miami, when the American forces appeared, but they retreated, and a force despatched to rout a body of Indians said to be "in an old fortification at Swan Creek" (presumably Fort Industry) found it to be unoccupied. Soon afterwards a delegation from Frenchtown (now Monroe) arrived in General Winchester's camp, imploring protection for their settlement; and the main

object of the expedition was forgotten in the circumstances and urgency of the local predicament. On January 17th General Winchester despatched 660 men under Colonels William Lewis and John Allen to the relief of Frenchtown. On the 19th, news that the Indians were gathering in force, alarmed General Winchester, who started for Frenchtown, taking with him all the troops he could detach from Maumee Rapids, in all only about 250 men. His force reached Frenchtown next day. General Winchester seems to have then rested in the belief that no immediate danger was possible, and, notwithstanding that spies reported that a large body of British and Indians were approaching, and would probably attack him that night, he seems to have been caught unawares in the attack which was made upon his forces in the early morning of the 22nd. Winchester himself was separated from his forces, and taken prisoner by an Indian.



FORT MEIGS, 1812.
(From painting on wall of Wood County Court House.)

He was led to Colonel Proctor, the British commander, and presumably convinced that a massacre would result unless his force surrendered. He, therefore, ordered his troops to surrender. They however continued to fight until many had been slain, and the third request was received. Then followed the treacherous massacre. Several hundred American soldiers perished in this great disaster at the River Raisin, and the slogan "Remember the Raisin" later stirred many compatriots to enlist who would not otherwise have joined the military forces of the nation.

General Harrison was at Upper Sandusky when news reached him of the unauthorized advance to the Raisin River. He recognized the possibilities, and hastened to the Maumee River in advance of his troops. He arrived there on the day following that of the disaster, and immediately sent a strong detachment to support General Winchester. The troops had not proceeded far before they encountered several fugitives, who reported the total defeat of General Winchester's

command. Returning to the Maumee, a council was held, and it was decided to retire temporarily to a safer position in the direction of the Portage River. Accordingly, the blockhouse at Camp Deposit, Maumee Rapids, was razed, and a fortified camp was established about equi-distant from that and Lower Sandusky. There the command rested, pending the arrival of advancing reinforcements. Soon afterwards, the American Army again advanced to the Maumee River, and erected a strong fort on the high right bank of the Maumee River, a short distance from the lowest fording place, and below the foot of the lowest rapids. They called the fortifications Fort Meigs, in honor of the Governor of Ohio, and it became the centre of operations for the next few months. The Canadians, and their Indian allies, were concentrating, during March and April, for a determined attack upon it, hoping thereby to annihilate General Harrison's army. It was even promised that General Harrison himself would be delivered up to his inveterate enemy, Tecumseh. Meanwhile, the outlook for the American nation was serious. The garrison of Fort Meigs was deplorably weak, being only about five hundred men during the month of March, General Harrison's command having been sadly depleted through sickness and other causes. Men were leaving constantly, and could not be forcibly retained, the period for which they had enlisted having expired. Matters had come to such a pass that the Legislature passed an act adding $7 a month to the pay of any of the Kentuckians then in service who would remain until others had been sent to relieve them. By the time Fort Meigs was invested, General Harrison's command had been increased to 1100 effectives, with which small body he had to oppose the combined Canadian and Indian force of about 3000 men. The Canadians had embarked at Malden, while the Indians proceeded on foot. The white troops arrived at Maumee Bay on April 26th, and two days later landed near the ruins of Fort Miami, about two miles below Fort Meigs, on the opposite side of the river. The Indians, who had already gathered at the rendezvous, immediately crossed the river, and invested Fort Meigs. During the next couple of days the Canadians were mainly occupied in placing their artillery, but eventually the cannonading began. It has been stated that as many as 500 shells were daily fired at, or into, the fortress from the 1st to the 4th of May, without appreciable effect, and on the 4th, when the Canadian general, General Proctor, sent an officer, under a white flag, to demand the surrender of the fort, General Harrison replied that he would never surrender the post upon any terms. That night, news came to him that General Green Clay's command, in eighteen large flatboats had reached the left bank of the Maumee, at the head of the Grand Rapids. General Harrison sent them orders to divide. Part were to land about a mile above Fort Meigs for the purpose of charging the British batteries, and spiking the guns, after which they were to return to their boats, and cross over to the fort. The remainder of the men were to land in the vicinity of the fort and fight their way through the investing Indians.

The forces that were to land on the Fort Meigs side accomplished that manoever successfully, and eventually reached the fortress, although only after they had been aided by sorties from the fort. The other detachment, under Colonel Dudley, reached and spiked the Brit-

ish guns without much difficulty, but then, having been sniped at by some Indians, they became uncontrollable, and instead of returning to their boats they charged into the thickets from which the firing came. They were unused to Indian warfare, and in reality charged into an ambuscade; and of a force of 866 men, only 170 escaped to Fort Meigs. Colonel Dudley himself was killed in the conflict which lasted for three hours, during which the Indians tomahawked all they could detach from their companies, and practically all who fell wounded. It seems that the British either were indifferent to such murderous conduct, or were unable to control their savage allies; but the Indian chief, Tecumseh, on that day showed himself to be inher-

TECUMSEH.

ently honorable and merciful, notwithstanding his insatiable hatred of American authority. When he heard of the bloodthirsty work then proceeding, he leaped upon his horse and galloped to the spot, "rage showing in every feature." Beholding two Indians butchering an American, he brained one with his tomahawk, and felled the other. Seeing General Proctor standing near while the massacre was proceeding, Tecumseh rode up to him.

"Why don't you stop this?" inquired Tecumseh, sternly.

"Sir," replied Proctor. "Your Indians cannot be commanded."

"Begone" yelled Tecumseh. "You are unfit to command. Go! and put on petticoats."

Tecumseh then dashed into the melee, and, throwing himself between the American prisoners and Indians, dared an Indian to murder another prisoner. So ended the massacre, and so did Tecumseh pass into American history as an honorable Indian chieftain, of noble traits.

The American disaster had a somewhat unusual result, for instead of its resulting to the advantage of the Canadians, the contrary was the case. The Indians withdrew, tired of the siege, and perhaps satiated by the butchery of the 5th; and, General Proctor on May 9th found it advisable to withdraw his white forces, and return to Amherstburg, Canada, where he disbanded the militia. Thus, it happened that an American force of not much more than one thousand men successfully withstood a siege by three times its strength. During the siege, eighty-one men of the garrison of Fort Meigs were killed, and 189 wounded. This of course does not include the casualties of the relieving force under Colonel Dudley.

It was felt that the withdrawal of the Canadian forces would only be temporary; and therefore the days were well occupied in strengthening the fortifications. General Harrison left General Clay in command, and proceeded himself to Lower Sandusky, making that centre his administrative headquarters. In July, General Proctor again headed an expedition into the mouth of the Maumee; and on the 20th of that month the boats of the enemy were detected ascending the river. He was reported to be in considerable force, his army being estimated to be more than five thousand men, while the garrison of Fort Meigs at that time was insignificant, numbering only a few hundred. Soon after the news had been reported to General Harrison, he sent word to General Clay to take every precaution against surprise and ambuscade, telling him that the sending of reinforcements was not then immediately possible. Thus General Clay was saved from what might have brought disaster, for Tecumseh, who commanded the Indian allies of the Canadians, sought to overcome the fortress by strategy. He staged a sham battle in the vicinity of the fort, and in the direction from which reinforcements would come. But General Clay reasoned that the organization and despatch of a relieving force in such a short time would hardly have been possible, and therefore he held his command closely to the confines of the fort. On July 27th the investment was lifted, and the enemy departed again from Fort Meigs. So passed the last element of military conflict from the Maumee River.

White settlement of the Maumee Valley was slow before the War of 1812 definitely cleared the territory of Indian resistance. Col. John Anderson was the only American trader of any note on the river in 1800, in which year he settled at Fort Miami. On the right bank of the river, on a site now within the City of Toledo, there was a very small French settlement in the first decade of the nineteenth century; and when war came in 1812 there were sixty-seven families residing at the foot of the Maumee Rapids. These were thrown into consternation when news came, in a somewhat dramatic way, of the surrender of General Hull's army at Detroit. A band of British and

Indians suddenly appeared at the foot of the Rapids and plundered the settlers on both sides of the river, returning to Detroit with the plunder. The settlers then took early opportunity to seek safer quarters to the southward, but after the close of hostilities returned in increasing numbers. Settlement had advanced so far in 1816 that the Government then sent an agent to lay out a town at the point on the Miami of the Lake best calculated for commercial purposes. Perrysburg was the result. In the next year a treaty of much importance was negotiated by Generals Lewis Cass and Duncan McArthur, and the Indian chiefs, at a council held "at the foot of the Rapids of the Miami of Lake Erie." The exact location is stated to have been on the left bank of the river near the site of the present village of Maumee. There, in September, 1817, the Wyandots, Senecas, Delawares, Shawnees, Pottawatomies, Ottawas and Chippewas were represented, and agreed to cede right to considerable land in Northwest Ohio. There were seven thousand aborigines present when this treaty was negotiated, and "of all the great treaties ever entered into with the Indians this one held at the Maumee Rapids was of the greatest interest to Northwest Ohio." It cleared the field for safe settlement.

In 1819, Fulton county terirtory passed under the jurisdiction of Shelby county, and in the next year, 1820, on the 12th day of February, it was declared "That all that part of the lands lately ceded by the Indians to the United States, which lies within this state, shall be, and the same is hereby erected into fourteen separate and distinct counties," to be bounded and named, as in the act provided. These counties so formed were: Allen, Crawford, Hancock, Hardin, Henry, Marion, Mercer, Paulding, Putnam, Sandusky, Seneca, Van Wert, Williams, and Wood. Of the newly created counties, Hancock, Henry, Putnam, Paulding, and Williams, were temporarily attached to Wood county, the temporary seat of justice of which was fixed at Maumee. What is now Fulton county was then partly in Williams and Henry counties, but settlement had not then begun. It was not until 1823 that Henry county had sufficient settlers within its borders to organize the area into one township, which was named Damascus. In the area now known as Fulton county there was, in 1824, probably only one white settler. He, John Grey, who built a log cabin in 1824, in what eventually became Pike Township, and on what ultimately was known as the Herman Tappan farm, can perhaps hardly be termed a legitimate settler. In reality, his log cabin was a trading outpost, and he left the country nine years later, seeking safety in flight from hostile Indians, whom he seems to have displeased in trading transactions. Perrysburg became the county seat of Wood county on March 19, 1823, but eleven months later Williams county became fully organized, and for judicial purposes Henry County was then attached to it. In 1834, Henry county entered into full and separate existence, being then fully organized for all purposes, under the authority of an act passed by the State Legislature during the session of 1834. Lucas county, which was organized in 1835, by authority of an act passed on June 20th of that year, owes its existence probably to the controversy then pending between the State of Ohio and the Territory of Michigan, the latter authority claiming right to administer the territory north of what is known as the Fulton line.

The full circumstances will be explained in another chapter of this work. Lucas county took territory from Henry county, and by an amendment of March 14, 1836, the boundaries of Lucas county were defined as follows:

"Beginning at a point on Lake Erie, where the line commonly called 'Fulton's Line' intersects the same; thence due west with said Fulton's Line, to the Maumee River; thence in a southwesterly direction with the said river, to the east line of the county of Henry; thence north on said line to the northeast corner of township 6, in range 8; thence west, on said township line, to the east line of the county of Williams; thence north, to the northern boundary of the state, called the 'Harris Line'; thence in an easterly direction with said line to Lake Erie; thence due east, until a line drawn due north, from the place of beginning, shall intersect the same."

With the exception of two tiers of sections on the south, and the territory on the west, which Williams county had eventually to cede to Fulton, the whole of the present county of Fulton was embraced in Lucas. Thus, until the organization of Fulton county in 1850, the territory then included in it was under the jurisdiction of the counties of Henry, Lucas, and Williams.

CHAPTER III

THE BOUNDARY DISPUTE

Interstate war, between the State of Ohio and the Territory of Michigan, was only narrowly averted in the '30s, during the controversy which raged, heatedly, for some years, in the attempt to decide the ownership of a small strip of border land. The territory in dispute was only twelve miles wide at Toledo, and five miles in width at its western boundary; yet it seemed at one time that bloody war would result between the states before ownership of the strip could be established. And, as it was probable that one side would have the assistance of the United States Government in any resulting military operations, the dispute was a portentous one.

The trouble might have ended in its very inception had the United States Government clearly defined the boundaries when the first constitution of Ohio was formed, in 1802. It would then have been merely a detail of surveying unorganized territory of little consequence; but thirty years later, when State and Territory had grown in wealth and landed possessions and in political importance, the disputed territory was a matter of keen interest to both. Until it was decided, the townships of Gorham, Chesterfield, Royalton, and Amboy, and the northern parts of Franklin, Dover, Pike, and Fulton, of the present Fulton county, which territory was then in the early but appreciable process of settlement, seemed to recognize the authority of Michigan, in legal processes.

The origin dates back to the "Ordinance of 1787," which divided the Northwest Territory, then only recently ceded to the United States, into three parts: the western, to include all of the present states of Illinois, Wisconsin, and a portion of the Upper Peninsula of Michigan; the middle, to include the present state of Indiana, and north of the British line; the eastern, to include the territory bounded by Indiana, Canada, Pennsylvania, and the Ohio River: "Provided, however, and it is further understood and declared, that the boundaries of these three (prospective) states shall be subject so far to be altered, that if Congress shall hereafter find it expedient they shall have authority to form one or two states in that part of the said territory which lies north of an east and west line drawn through the southerly bend or extreme of Lake Michigan."

In an act of Congress, granting to Ohio constitutional state rights, the northern boundary was described as follows: "On the north, by an east and west line drawn through the southerly extreme of Lake Michigan, running east after intersecting the due north line, from the mouth of the Great Miami, until it shall intersect Lake Erie, or the territorial line, and thence with the same through Lake Erie to the Pennsylvania line."

The state constitution was framed accordingly, and approved by Congress as prepared; and the State of Ohio exercised jurisdiction accordingly, as it supposed was its right. But that the Territory of Michigan also claimed the right of jurisdiction within what Congress had agreed was the boundaries of Ohio is shown by the following letter to Governor Meigs:

Miami Rapids, January 23, 1812.

Sir: It appears to be the general wish of the people of this settlement (which consists of about fifty families) to have the laws of the State of Ohio extended over them, as we consider ourselves clearly within the limits of said state. The few who object are those who hold offices under the Governor of Michigan, and are determined to enforce their laws. This is considered by a great majority of the inhabitants as usurpation of power which they are under no obligation to adhere to. If no adjustment should take place, I fear the contention will ere long become serious. Sir, will you have the goodness to inform the people here, whether there has been any understanding between the State of Ohio and the Governor of Michigan on the subject of jurisdiction, together with your advice. I am, sir, with high esteem,

Your obedient servant,

AMOS SPAFFORD,
Collector of Port Miami.

The war, with Britain, and the consequent evacuation of the Maumee country by the settlers, but the matter into a state of dormancy for some years, although in response to an appeal by the Ohio Legislature, the United States Congress, on May 20, 1812, passed an act authorizing and instructing the Surveyor General of the United States, as soon as the consent of the Indians could be obtained "to cause to be surveyed, marked, and designated, so much of the western and northern boundaries of the State of Ohio, which have not already been ascertained, as divides said states from the territories of Indiana and Michigan, agreeably to the boundaries as established by the act" of 1802. They instructed the Surveyor General "to cause to be made a plat, or plan, of so much of the boundary line as runs from the southerly extreme of Lake Michigan to Lake Erie, particularly noting the place where said line intersects the margin of said lake, and to return the same when made to Congress."

The War of 1812 prevented the immediate undertaking of the survey, and nothing was done in the matter until 1817, following the negotiations of the Cass-McArthur treaty with the Indians. Then Edward Tiffin, surveyor-general, employed William Harris to survey a portion of the western, and all of the northern boundary line. Harris found that a due east line from the head of Lake Michigan would intersect Lake Erie seven miles south of of the most northerly cape of Maumee Bay, Fulton subsequently verifying the survey. Harris, however, in conformity to the constitution of Ohio, ran another line from the lower extremity of Lake Michigan to the northerly cape of Maumee Bay, which line established the northwest corner of Ohio five miles, 25 chains, and 64 links north of where the due east and west line ran. Governor Lewis Cass, governor of Michigan at that time, and much

interested in the Maumee country since the negotiation by him of the Indian treaty, claimed the line of the Ordinance of 1787 to be the southern one. He succeeded eventually in obtaining an order, through William H. Crawford, then Secretary of the Treasury, to run the due east and west line. John A. Fulton made the survey, and established what is known as the Fulton Line, which confirmed the original survey made by Harris, not the subsequent survey by Harris, who in that

MAP MADE IN 1834, SHOWING PART OF THE PRESENT FULTON COUNTY, OHIO, IN LENAWEE COUNTY, MICHIGAN.

second survey laid the state boundary on the line known as the Harris Line, to which line the State of Ohio adhered, establishing townships within the disputed territory as soon as an area became sufficiently settled.

The dispute remained unsettled, and without prospect of determined attempt to dispose of it, until 1834, when Governor Lucas of Ohio

appointed three commissioners to locate the line of the proposed Lake Erie and Miami Canal through the state. In that year it was, in consequence, found that the eastern terminus of the canal would have to be located at a point on the Maumee River north of the Fulton Line, and as the State of Ohio was much, and financially, interested in the canal project, the reopening and final settlement of the boundary question became imperative. On February 12, 1835, the Territory of Michigan passed an act by which heavy penalties would follow an attempt by any person to administer any part of the territory without authority from the United States or the Territory of Michigan. That act was soon afterwards challenged, when an election was ordered in the disputed territory by the Ohio authorities. It was held, and Michigan at once retaliated by appointing officials, who were instructed to enforce the law, known as "the Pains and Penalties Act"; and the somewhat impulsive governor of Michigan made provision to resort to military measures, if necessary, as the following letter to his military officer shows:

PICTURESQUE OLD LOCK ON THE MIAMI AND ERIE CANAL.

Executive Office, Detroit, March 9, 1835.

Sir: You will herewith receive the copy of a letter just received from Columbus. You now perceive that a collision between Ohio and Michigan is inevitable, and will therefore be prepared to meet the crisis. The governor of Ohio has issued a proclamation, but I have neither received it nor have I been able to learn its tendency. You will use every exertion to obtain the earliest information of the military movements of our adversary, as I shall assume the responsibility of sending you such arms, etc., as may be necessary for your successful operation, without waiting for an order from the Secretary of War, so soon as Ohio is properly in the field. Till then I am compelled to await the direction of the War Department.

Very respectfully your obedient servant,

STEVENS T. MASON.

On March 31st, Governor Lucas, of Ohio, arrived at Perrysburg accompained by his staff and three commissioners whom he had appointed to remark the boundary on the Harris line. General John Bell, in command of the Seventeenth Division of Ohio Militia, arrived

at about the same time. He was ordered to recruit the militia among the residents of the territory in dispute, but was unable to do so, and had to call for six hundred volunteers from other counties of Ohio. As a matter of fact, the settlers in the disputed strip were more inclined to recognize the authority of the Territory of Michigan; and some of them actually enlisted in the Michigan army. General Bell's army went into camp near the old Fort Miami, and the hostile camp was not far distant, for Governor Mason with General Brown had arrived at Toledo, and the Michigan army was estimated to consist of from eight hundred to twelve hundred men. Both sides were resolved to carry through the object of muster and assembly, and but for the opportune arrival of two United States commissioners, sent expressly by the president, war in all probability would have resulted. These two emissaries of the federal authority used their personal influence to prevent all warlike demonstration, and at a conference, held on April 7, 1835, submitted the following propositions to the contending authorities:

"First, that the Harris line should be run and remarked, pursuant to the act of the last session of the Legislature of Ohio without interruption;

Second, the civil elections under the laws of Ohio having taken place throughout the disputed territory, that the people residing upon it should be left to their own judgment, obeying the one jurisdiction, or the other, as they may prefer, without molestation from the authorities of Ohio, or Michigan, until the close of the next session of Congress."

The conference ended presumably in a truce, and soon afterwards the boundary commissioners proceeded to the Harris line, to carry the remarking through to completion. They were set upon by fifty or sixty men of General Brown's command, and indeed under the command of that officer, on April 26th, and although the commissioners themselves escaped, their escort of nine men "were taken prisoners and carried away into the interior of the country." The commissioners reported that the men were made prisoners after thirty to fifty shots had been fired at them, fortunately without hurt. Further hostility was shown by the Michigan authorities by suddenly appearing, on April 11th, in armed force (about 200 strong, armed with muskets and bayonets), at Toledo. The officers of Ohio, "having been lulled into security by the assurances of the United States Commissioners," were taken by surprise, and forced to retire from the place, giving General Brown and his Michigan army "full space for the display of their gasconading, which was exhibited in pulling down the flag of Ohio, and dragging it through the streets at the tail of a horse, with other similar acts." In many parts of the disputed territory civil authorities of the Ohio administration were arrested by Michigan "banditti," which had been stationed at Adrian under the command of General Brown, "to keep a close watch on events."

Although the State of Ohio recognized the right of the United States to exercise supreme authority, and therefore rested its armed demonstrations until such time as the Congress would act, Governor Lucas and the state administration did not intend that its authority should be altogether flouted by the minions of Governor Mason. Lucas

county had been organized, and Toledo had temporarily been made the county seat; and there Governor Lucas was resolved that the law court should in due season hold session. The Michigan authorities were determined to prevent it, and for this purpose the Detroit militia arrived in Monroe on the evening of September 5th. On the 6th this force, together with many volunteers, marched into Toledo, headed by Governor Mason and General Brown. The associate judges were at the village of Maumee, ten miles distant, with Colonel Van Fleet and 100 soldiers of Ohio. Such a small force could not oppose the Michigan army, and strategy was resorted to to accomplish the purpose desired. September 7th was the day set for opening of judicial court, but as a time had not been stated, it was argued that one hour was as good as another. Consequently, at 1 o'clock in the morning of the 7th, the judges started down the Maumee on horseback, escorted by the colonel and twenty soldiers, each carrying two cavalry pistols. About two hours later they arrived, and proceeded quietly to the schoolhouse by Washington Street, which was then "well out of town." The three associated judges, Jonathan H. Jerome, Baxter Bowman, and William Wilson, opened the court, appointed a clerk and three commissioners for Lucas county, and after the transaction of a little other necessary business, the court adjourned. "All present then hastily started through the woods up the Maumee River to the town of the same name," and safely arrived, with the valuable minutes of the first court.

The success of the strategem practically ended the trouble. An order came removing Governor Mason from the office of governor of the Territory of Michigan, "because of his excessive zeal for its rights;" and on the 15th of June, 1836, Michigan was admitted into the Union, her southern boundary then being definitely and finally limited to the Harris Line, the disputed area then becoming part of Ohio.

CHAPTER IV

SETTLEMENT AND ORGANIZATION

The present county of Fulton was organized in 1850, but settlement began almost two decades prior to that, and at a time when its territory was part of Henry and Williams counties. The creation of Lucas county, in 1835, took within its boundaries the greater part of the land which was ultimately to form Fulton county; and that portion which was embraced in Lucas county was originally put within the limits of a single township, called York. York Township was later subdivided into several smaller townships, by name: Amboy; Chesterfield; Clinton; German; Gorham; Royalton; Swan Creek; York; Franklin; Dover; Pike; and Fulton; all of which townships were organized while the land was in the jurisdiction of Lucas county, although the beginning of settlement antedated the organization of Lucas county.

JOHN GREY, A FUR TRADER, BUILT A LOG CABIN IN PIKE TOWNSHIP, IN 1824.

Unless John Grey, a fur trader who built a log cabin in Pike Township in 1824, residing therein until 1833, can be considered to have been a legitimate settler, which supposedly he can not, for he does not appear to have taken title to any land, nor to have cleared any acreage, the settlement may be stated to have begun in 1832, or 1833. As to which of the early settlers was the first to take up residence, i. e., permanent abode, within the county, it is hard to determine, closer than to state that the first two settlers were Eli Phillips and Joseph Bates. The former is generally acknowledged to have been the pioneer settler, but whether he should have that distinctive place is a moot point, as the following records show. The "History of Henry and Fulton Counties" (1888) states:

"In the early part of the year 1832, Eli Phillips with his young wife came to the disputed land. They were former residents of Michigan, in the vicinity of Adrian. Mr. Phillips located on sections ten and eleven, town nine south, range three east, on the tenth day of June, in that year;" but the "Wauseon Republican," of July 19, 1884, carried a "Personal," which reads as follows:

"We received a social call on Tuesday last from Eli Phillips, of Royalton Township. Phillips Corners was named after him. He informs us that he settled in that place June 10, 1833. At that time the Indians were the only occupants of this country. His nearest neighbor was in Michigan, five miles away; and on the east the only settler was at Sylvania, eighteen miles east. On the south, the nearest settlement was on the Maumee River, twenty-five miles away; and on the west, Angola, Indiana, was the nearest settlement."

Therefore, by his own testimony, it seems that 1833 was the year in which Eli Phillips settled. Of course, typographical errors are not impossible, especially in the hastily compiled temporary record a newspaper is called upon to provide. Mistakes especially in figures often creep into the columns of a newspaper. However, a later history of Fulton county, that edited by Thomas Mikesell in 1905, gives the year of the coming of Eli Phillips as 1833, explaining that "he entered his land in Fulton county in 1832, and removed here the following year." Therefore, June 10, 1833, may be taken to have been the day upon which Eli Phillips, that worthy pioneer, arrived in Royalton Township with his wife.

Consequently, his right to first place among the pioneers of Fulton county must be considered in connection with the record of Joseph Bates, the pioneer settler in Franklin Township. Joseph Bates is claimed to have been the first settler in Brady Township, Williams county, he having settled in the part of that township which in 1850 was added to Franklin Township, when Fulton county was created. The "History of Henry and Fulton Counties" (Aldrich, 1888) states that Joseph Bates:

"Came into this territory, then Williams county, on section two, town seven north, range four east, in February, 1833, while others claim not until 1834, and on the farm known today as the Shilling Farm. In the absence of better proof, we will accept the record as given by A. W. Fisher, in his historical reminiscences of early settlers, wherein he writes of Joseph Bate's daughter, Mrs. Alvord, of Camden, Michigan, replying to which she declares that her father came in 1832; from the testimony of others, it will be doing justice to the memory of Joseph Bates to give him the benefit of a medium date, February, 1833, which would seem to correspond with the memory of many living witnesses."

Other records support this deduction, one in particular supporting the belief that Joseph Bates was here long before 1834. As will be noted in the German Township chapter of this present work, Jacob Binder, in his narrative of the coming of the pioneers of German Township in 1834, refers to Joseph Bates, "a noted hunter," whom they heard of when they had reached Defiance, in 1834, on their return from Fort Wayne, whither they had journeyed, in search of

suitable land upon which to settle, and in which search they had been up to that time unsuccessful. Mr. Binder stated that, at Defiance, "they heard of one Joseph Bates, eighteen miles north, a noted hunter, and a man of broad and accurate knowledge of the country," explaining that "Mr. Bates then lived on what is now (1896) known as the John Shilling Farm, in the southwestern part of Franklin Township, Fulton county." Continuing the narrative, Mr. Binder said: "To him they gladly came. They found him to be the man they exactly needed —brave, active, generous, and thoroughly posted on the conditions of the country, and the needs of new settlers." Evidently, Joseph Bates at that time was a man of wide repute; and in such country where news travelled slowly, and where a settler might live a long while unknown to, what would now be termed, comparatively near neighbors, the circumstance leads one to believe that Joseph Bates was in the territory earlier, perhaps, than 1833.

RATTLESNAKES WERE NOT UNCOMMON IN FULTON COUNTY IN THE EARLY DAYS.

However, in linking Eli Phillips and Joseph Bates as the pioneer settlers of Fulton county, justice will probably be done to the memory of both. They were both true pioneers, brave, hospitable, and resolutely active. During the Boundary Dispute, Eli Phillips sided with Michigan; indeed, he went so far as to take military service for the Territory of Michigan at that time. He was placed in responsible command, with the grade of lieutenant-colonel, and probably recruited to the militia of the Michigan command some of the settlers within the Ohio territory in dispute. It appears that most of the settlers were in

sympathy with the Michigan administration; at least those within what became the northern townships of Fulton county, and those in that part of the second tier of townships north of the Fulton Line.

Here, in this chapter, it will be unnecessary, perhaps, to name the other early pioneers of Fulton county, for each will be given honorable and appropriate place in the respective township chapters, where individual records can, properly, be more extensively reviewed. To make individual review of the advent of the settlers would demand considerable space, as may be imagined when it is realized that the population (white) grew from one, or two, in 1832 to more than three thousand in 1840. The population of the respective townships in 1840 as given by Historian Aldrich is as follows: Amboy Township, 452; Chesterfield, 301; Clinton, 303; German, 452; Gorham, 352; Royalton, 401; Swan Creek, 494; and York, 435. The other four townships of Fulton county were of later organization.

York Township was, apparently, the first to be organized. Local historians place its organization as of June 6, 1836, although official records are not available to substantiate. The same condition applies to Swan Creek Township, the organization of which is stated to have been after that of York Township, but in the same year, 1836. It probably occurred after the amended organization in 1836, of Lucas county, which was somewhat hurriedly formed in 1835 when the Boundary Dispute was the matter of most urgent and portentous moment to the contending states. The other ten townships of Fulton county were organized on the dates given below: Amboy, on June 4, 1837; Chesterfield, on June 4, 1837; Royalton, on June 4, 1837; Clinton, on March 5, 1838; Gorham, on March 6, 1838; German, on March 4, 1839; Franklin, on March 1, 1841; Fulton, on March 1, 1841; Pike, on March 1, 1841; and Dover, on June 5, 1843. All settlers within the territory when York Township was organized were expected to proceed to York Centre to cast their vote.

The early pioneers found that red men were to be their neighbors: although the Indians then in the county do not appear to have been unfriendly. As a matter of fact, they were considered by some settlers to be "a nuisance," in too frequently proffering help to incoming white people. At the best, however, the Indians constituted an uncertain element, and as the settlement by whites progressed the state authorities and the United States Government sought to induce the Indians to remove further west. Colonel Dresden W. H. Howard, than whom there has been no greater authority on the Indian history of Fulton county, wrote, in 1887:

"The principal Indian village within the present limits of Fulton county, was that of the Pottawatomie chief, Winameg, located on the banks of Keeg (now Bad) Creek, and the high ridge crossing the creek, near the post-office of Winameg (in Pike Township). Smaller settlements were located on Bean Creek, and the upper branches of the St. Joseph, but were of a more temporary character."

Winameg was so named, to honor the remembrance of Chief Winameg, who was well-known to, and a great friend of D. W. H. Howard and his father Edward Howard, who, "in the early years of the 'thirties" built a trading log house near the Indian village, doing much business in furs with the inhabitants thereof. The fine, old, colonial residence later built by the Howard family at Winameg, still

stands on the site of the Indian village. Continuing, Colonel Howard wrote:

"At the time of the writer's first visit to the village of Winameg, in the spring of 1827 or 1828, the aged chief, Winameg, whose head was whitened by the snows of a hundred winters, yet who was still active in mind and body, ruled the tribe and directed its affairs, aided by his son, Wi-na-meg, and other chiefs of less importance."

There were other settlements; one is referred to in the Clinton Township chapter; but undoubtedly the main Indian village was that of Winameg. Colonel D. W. H. Howard, under date of March 14, 1887, and on the stationery of the Maumee Valley Monumental Association, of which he was vice-president and one of the most active workers, wrote to Mrs. S. D. Snow, who belonged to an old Dover Township family, and at that time lived in Hartford, Michigan, as follows:

THE FINE OLD COLONIAL RESIDENCE, BUILT BY THE HOWARD FAMILY, STILL STANDS UPON THE SITE OF THE INDIAN VILLAGE, AT HISTORIC WINAMEG.

"The Indian name that was applied to this portion of Fulton county (presumably the vicinity of Winameg) was a Pottawatomie, or rather French and Indian, word, signifying 'Two-Boys,' or 'Twin-Boys,' and was applied more particularly to the 'Ridge' and Springs at Etna, at the old crossing of Bad Creek—Djue-Naw-ba-Two (French, Djue) Naw-ba (Boy) Pottawatomic. Now the true word, in Indian, and as they commonly used it, was Neshe-Maw-ba, or Twin Boys. I have always had trouble in getting the printers to spell my Indian words as I write them. I spell the words, Djue-naw-ba; or Nesha-naw-ba.....The Pottawatomies were the tribe which you knew, and were removed, or notified by the Government to remove, in 1839 or 1840, when the remnant went, some to Canada and the rest to the north-

west. I was employed to aid in removing the greater portion of the Ottawas and Pottawatomies west of the Mississippi in 1832 and 1833."

Governor Lewis Cass was one of the government officials chiefly responsible for the negotiations with the Indians relative to their removal; and Governor Porter, of Pennsylvania, was another who sought to persuade them to depart to the new home selected for them beyond the Mississippi; to the place where "the beautiful groves of timber, the rolling and undulating prairie land, covered with waving grass, and spangled over with flowers of the many-colored hues of the rainbow" would make their life an enviable one. One would have thought that such graphic description would have brought appreciative response from Indians who had been forced to pass their lives in a damp, swampy, mosquito-ridden country, such as was the "Black Swamp" of northwest Ohio at that time. But the seductive language of Governor Porter had little effect. The Indians were reluctant to even consider the subject of removal. Yet, they must have known, or at least the shrewd must have reasoned, that it was inevitable as the setting of the sun; and knowingly, or unwittingly, conferences ultimately ended in only one way—in the achievement of the purpose of the United States Government. Colonel Howard, who knew the Indians so well, and was so closely in their confidence, stated that "as a rule, when treaties were successfully made, there was more or less deception practiced to accomplish the objects in view." He thought it "unfortunate" that "so noble and generous a government as that of the United States" should appoint "among its agents selected to transact the business of the government with these untutored and confiding savages, men who were, to say the least, not just."

Nevertheless, willingly or unwillingly, it was necessary to transport the Indians farther west; they could not be permitted to impede the settlement and development. And they had to recognize the supreme authority of the "Great Father," the President of the United States. But the life of the Indian had been so Nomadic, that unanimity of action was scarcely to be expected of them. It was a matter of much difficulty to gather them for migration. Some remained in the "deeps" of the wilderness, while some even went into Canada, rather than cross "the muddy river" (Mississippi). From 1832 to 1840 the migration continued, and isolated Indians might have been in Fulton county somewhat later. In fact, there undoubtedly were many in Clinton Township in the early years of its settlement, as individual testimony reviewed in that township chapter of this work substantiates. But they had become so few in numbers at that time that their presence constituted no bar or hindrance to the full settlement of the region. The main migrations occurred in 1832 and 1838, those of the former year going overland in wagons and on horseback, using their own ponies, and those of 1838 going by lake steamer to Cleveland; thence by canal to Portsmouth; thence down the Ohio and up the Mississippi and Missouri to the mouth of the Kansas River; and thence to Kansas territory.

Proof that Indians still were in Fulton county in 1840 is supplied by a diary for that year, kept by Mrs. Mary (Rice) Hibbard, wife of Mortimer D. Hibbard, a pioneer of Dover Township, and the first auditor of Fulton county. An entry in the diary, under date of November 29, 1840, reads:

"The Indians who formerly lived in this place have been compelled this fall to leave it and go to the far West. They heard preparations were being made to take them away, and fled two hundred miles, to a woods in Michigan. While there encamped they were overtaken, surrounded, and compelled to go. I cannot think it right to force them to leave their native woods and plains, to which they seem so attached, and go to a strange land, as they have done. They were a harmless people, never disturbing the whites, unless first misused by them—getting their living principally by hunting, picking berries, and sometimes making baskets, which they exchanged with the whites for bread, or potatoes. They frequently came here hungry and asked for victuals, for which they seemed very thankful, but I never knew them to take anything without leave. They were very fond of ornaments, silver brooches, brass rings, glass beads, or little bells, which they wore around waist, neck, or arms."

Fort Meigs Monument.

Mary B. (Copeland) Howard, who died in 1915 at the venerable age of ninety years, was almost as much interested in the Indians, near whom they had lived, as was her husband, Colonel D. W. H. Howard, who predeceased her by about seventeen years. She was keenly interested in pioneer history; followed closely with her husband the proceedings of the Maumee Valley Historical and Pioneer Association; and ably aided her husband in the organization of the Maumee Valley Monumental Association, which two associations were the main factors in influencing the Ohio Legislature, in 1906, to appropriate the sum of $25,000 to erect a shaft on the site of Fort Meigs, in honor and remembrance of those national heroes who died in the defence of that fortress. Both Mr. and Mrs. Howard wrote much in later life regarding the Indians. One of Mrs. Howard's interesting articles is entitled

"The last of the Pottawatomie Indians (in the Maumee Valley)," and because of its authenticity is deserving of place in Fulton County records. The article reads:

"In 1833, the Government of the United States bought all of the land in Ohio country then belonging to the Pottawatomie Indians, and gave them a tract of land in Kansas. Now, some of the Indians hated to leave their homes; while others did not go to Kansas at all, but went to Canada; others hid in the swamps and woods of Ohio.

Among the tribe there was a man named Senalick. He and his squaw were away when the tribe moved from Ohio; and they did not come back for some years. Then they went to a white man who was a friend of the Indians (probably Colonel Howard himself), and asked the privilege to hunt and fish in their old home. They did so for many months. One day the squaw came to their white friend and told him that her husband, Senalick, was very sick. The friend went down to the wigwam, and found Senalick severely sick. A mark on the Indian's forehead indicated that in some way he had been bitten by a spider. A few days later the squaw came to their friend's house again. Black stripes were painted upon her face, and her message was that in the night the Great Spirit had come and taken her husband away. She was told that her husband could not be buried until the next day. Then she went away, and when later her friend went down to the wigwam he saw her sitting beside the corpse. She had everything ready for the burial, having laid Senalick's hunting knife, powder horn and gun beside his dead body, but her friend, knowing that she would not remain after the burial and that she would have to travel many hundreds of miles to get to her tribe, told her that she would need the gun and some powder. It was hard work to persuade her, for she believed her husband would have need of the gun when he reachd the happy hunting grounds.

Senalick was buried, and for the remainder of the day, and through the night, the squaw sat at the graveside. Early next morning, the friend of the Indians stood at the door of his house, from which a clear view of the Maumee River could be obtained, and there upon the river he saw one lone canoe, drifting down. He called to his wife, and they both watched as it drifted past. When it came near they saw that in it was the squaw with two little papooses, a few blankets and sacks, and a gun. Senalick was the last Pottawatomie Indian that ever set foot in any part of this country."

The Howard home, when the family first came into Ohio, was at Fort Meigs, but two years later the Howards "moved to a home in the woods, cutting a road as they went, and settling on land at the head of the rapids in the Maumee, the place now known as Grand Rapids." Just across the river was the camp of "two thousand or so Indians." There, "young Howard.....passed his boyhood. He attended the Indian Mission School, with the Indians, who were his only playmates. He grew up with them, learned their language, and in later life was known as the friend of the Indians, so that in all probability the "friend" Mrs. Howard writes of was her own husband, Col. D. W. H. Howard. If so, the passing of Senalick must have occurred in, or later than, 1842, for May B. Copeland was not married to Colonel Howard until that year. Col. and Mrs. D. W. H. Howard

did not take up residence on the land he owned at Winameg, Pike Township, until 1851, and from the year of their marriage to their coming to Winameg they lived for the greater part of the time at Maumee Rapids. Therefore, there is every reason to believe that the last of the Indians left the Maumee Valley in the early '40s. Mrs. Howard, in another newspaper article stated:

"The saddest people that I ever saw were the Indians who used to roam through the forest which covered this county as they assembled in Toledo in 1837 (this may have been a typographical error, for most records show that the last important removal of Indians from the Maumee Valley took place in 1838, although Colonel Howard, in the letter before-quoted herein, stated that the Pottawatomies were removed, or notified to remove, in 1839 "and also in 1840"), and were waiting to be conveyed by the Government to a reservation in Kansas.....The removal of the Indian from Northwestern Ohio was but a demand of civilization, but it was a sad, sad day for the lone Indian, when he looked for the last time upon the hunting ground which was as dear to him as is your home to you.....These poor Indians were broken-hearted, but well for them that they did not know the character of the place to which they were going. When the day arrived for their leaving, one continuous pitiful wail was all that could be heard, as the Indians with solemn tread and bowed heads marched into the boats to sail away from their hunting grounds forever. Colonel Howard, as a friend of the Indian, went with them to their new reservation in Kansas."

Worthy of record also in Fulton county history is "A Memory," a paper written by Mary B. Howard, and read by her daughter, Agnes Howard McClarren, at a meeting of the Wauseon Daughters of the American Revolution in May, 1913. It deals with the Indian trails of the county, and begins:

"As a matter of historical fact, there were no trails of importance leading northward from the Maumee River, but with a sagacity born of living close to the great heart of nature, the Indian always selected his hunting trails on the high ridges, which later were used as thoroughfares by the white men.

"The Indian camps, or villages, were all along the Maumee River, the largest being at Fort Industry, or, as we know it, Toledo, from which a trail led westward, on what is now Dorr Street, passing near Holland, to Ai, thence to Winameg, where was a large village of Pottawatomies; from there it extended westward to Angola, Indiana, finally losing itself at Fort Dearborn, Chicago, only to emerge again, taking a southwesterly course towards the great Santa Fe trail, New Mexico. However, we have only a short link of it in Fulton county.

"During the hunting season, this was a much traveled trail, leading as it did into such fine hunting grounds, abounding with deer, bear, and wild turkey.

"This trail, now known as the Angola Road, over which the United States mail came to the early pioneers of Lucas, Fulton, and Williams counties. As early as 1840, the carrier, with his pony well saddled and his mail securely fastened on behind, left Maumee, traveling through bog and quagmire, in storm and cold over this then almost blazed trail he passed, stopping at the various cabins and settlements along his way. We know of him first at Parchers Corners, four miles

west of Ai; thence on to Dr. Holland's, later known as the Shute Farm, where warmth, cheer, and most openhanded hospitality greeted him, usually much needed by the half-frozen carrier and his faithful pony. We next see him at Winameg, thirty-two miles west of Toledo, where for many years E. C. Sindel kept a postoffice, and where also was a block-house, or trading post, for the Indians. His road led still westward about twelve miles, jogging a little to the south, where, two miles north of what is now known as Burlington or Elmira, Samuel Darby kept a postoffice. He spent the night with them, going on the next morning to Zone, returning again to Maumee.

"A trail branched northward at Winameg, passing through the Holt and Daniels farms towards Adrian, crossing the River Raisin near there; thence on to Detroit, or was lost in the forests of northern Michigan. It was over some portion of this trail that the Indians went to hide themselves when, in 1833, the Government ordered them to go farther west, to reservations in Kansas and Oklahoma.

"Another trail left Winameg, going southward through the Howard, Hubbard, Trowbridge, Fewless, and Cowan farms, following the ridges through Delta, and on to the river; another left the Delta road at some point a little to the west of the town, passing towards, but east of, Wauseon, through the Lamb and Huntington farms, angling to the west along the high ground to Ridgeway, onward to the river and Fort Defiance.

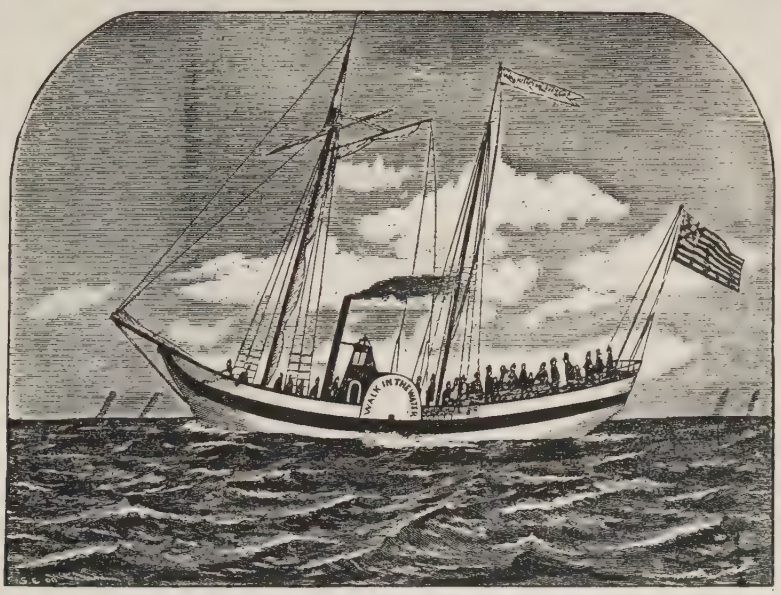
"There were much used and important trails from Toledo to Fort Wayne, along the water course, using the river as far as the rapids, seven miles below the town of Canal R. Then they traveled along the south bank again, taking to their canoes just above the rapids.

"Another trail was one the Indians used in their annual trip to Detroit (to receive their annuity from the British Government) from Toledo to Monroe, crossing at Malden, and on to Detroit. The Harrison trail enters Ohio at Petersburg, Fort Pitt, Mahoning county. It follows the Ohio River to the mouth of Beaver Creek, going north to Lisbon and Waynesburg, Stark county, crosses the Muskingum River, near Wooster, then taking a northwesterly course to Sandusky; thence to Castalia, to Fremont. It crosses the Maumee at the foot of the rapids, follows the river to Miami; thence across to the Raisin, and along to Detroit. This was called the big trail, and was of great importance."

A map of Pioneer Trails and Roads previous to 1850, giving interesting information regarding the early settlers of Clinton Township as well as outlining the trails, was prepared in pencil by Thomas Mikesell, of Wauseon, shortly before his death. It was later carefully redrawn, by a competent man, and blue-printed, so that reproduction is possible. The cut of the Mikesell map can be found by turning to a page of the Clinton Township chapter of this work.

It may be supposed that traffic along Indian trails of Fulton county was heavy during the first seven or eight years of settlement by white people, although the blazed trail could not last long. Some of the settlers included in the thousand that constituted the white population of the region in 1840 perhaps did the original migration partly by water, for steam and sailing vessels regularly plied from Buffalo to Detroit from the year 1827. Earlier than that, craft plied from

Cleveland to the Raisin and Maumee rivers, with fair regularity. One steamboat, the "Walk-in-the-Water," was built expressly to ply direct from Buffalo to the Maumee Rapids; and at one time Perrysburg seemed destined to become quite an important port. As a matter of fact, the "Walk-in-the-Water" was found, when launched, to have too deep a draft, and she had to make the mouth of Swan Creek her terminus. The steamboat "Sun" commenced in 1838 regularly to travel between Manhattan and Perrysburg and Maumee; and a converted canal boat, steam-propelled, ran from the head of Maumee Rapids to Fort Wayne. The majority of the settlers of Fulton county, however, probably placed more reliance on the prairie schooner, or emigrant wagon, than in mechanical contrivances. Astounding happenings were recorded in 1836 and 1837 in the matter of railroad



THE "WALK-IN-THE-WATER."

development. The Erie and Kalamazoo Railroad Company, in May, 1837, announced "To Emigrants and Travellers" that the railroad had been brought into full operation between Toledo and Adrian. The road was opened in 1836, and until June, 1837, when the first locomotive was delivered, the cars were drawn by horses. It was originally intended to use oak rails, but when the wooden rails were found to wear quickly, it was decided to reinforce them by tipping the oak rail with a strip of iron 2½ inches wide and ⅝ of an inch thick. The "strap rails" did not prove very satisfactory; still they proved a theory many thought would be impossible in practice. It proved that an engine set on a smooth rail would actually pull a load as heavy as itself. John Butler ("Uncle John"), who was one of the pioneer settlers in Chesterfield Township, and who, in 1838, carried the mails for ninety miles through the dense forests of Fulton county, and on

to Lima, Indiana, twice weekly, had to go to Sylvania for the mail, and he refers to this pioneer railroad thus:

"It was while I was carrying the mail from Sylvania that I saw the greatest event of my boyhood days—the building of a railroad. During the summer of 1838, a company was building the Pontiac & Detroit Railroad, from Toledo to Adrian, and were at work at Sylvania. The rails were flat bars of iron fastened to the ties, and the cars were at first drawn by horses. I recollect seeing the first steam engine pulling three or four cars. The settlers came from miles and miles to see it. Few would believe it possible that an engine on a smooth rail could pull a load as heavy as itself. They scouted at the idea, and declared that the wheels would just slip around on the rails, and that it would be impossible to move such a load. So when it was announced that a steam engine pulling a train of cars woud pass over the road we all turned out to see the wonder. You can imagine our surprise and amazement when an engine pulling four or five cars

"WE COULD DOUBT NO LONGER, FOR THERE STOOD THE MONSTER, WITH ITS LOAD."
(Reminiscences of John Butler, of Chesterfield Township.)

pulled up at the station. We could doubt no longer, for there stood the monster with its load."

Still, neither the railroad, nor the steamboat was responsible for the opening up of Fulton county. There were not even roads when the early pioneers came. They were the roadmakers. They had to lay their road as they proceeded, in order to proceed. And when they had reached the particular "spot in the woods" to which they were entitled, they had even to forget roads, in the heavy but vital labor of clearing a few acres upon which to plant corn for the all-important first harvest. And in some parts of the county, it often took a week to get from their log cabin to the nearest mill with their harvested corn for grinding, and to return home again. One settler went through dense woods for five miles over Indian trails, carrying on his shoulder a bushel of corn for grinding, and did the return journey with the

bushel of flour. Of course, in the presence of such difficulties of transportation, progress would have been almost at a standstill; and it is probably safe to assert that prosperity in the new settlement had its beginning in the beginning of road improvement projects. The "Vistula Road" from Toledo west, through the disputed strip of land, was laid out by the Government in 1835, and was a recognized thoroughfare—a main line, as it were. There were no side tracks, or locals, and the main line, at best, was a rough road. Mrs. Wm. McClarren, writing of the early roads stated:

"The oldest established roads in the county were the Toledo and Angola, the Maumee and Angola, both running westward, the most direct immigrant roads leading to the undeveloped country farther west. The automobilist who glides through our beautiful country in his electric machine, over roads as smooth as a floor, little thinks that not many years ago these delightful highways were miles upon miles of impassable roads over which the pioneer wended his weary way, with white-covered wagons which sank with every turn of the wheel to the hubs. Then for years afterwards came the improvement known as the 'corduroy,' formed of logs laid side by side, which soon left their alignment, and sank into the mud in places, making the road as uneven as before, although somewhat more passable. Afterwards came the improved 'plank road,' which for a number of years was considered sufficient. As the country improved, and the demand for better roads became necessary, it was thought best to call a meeting at the court house in Wauseon (about 1877 or 1882) for the discussion of the subject. The call was answered by a large and enthusiastic gathering of the best and most influential farmers of the county. The discussion was long, heated, and many sided. At last, one of the active farmers.....arose quietly, and said: 'Gentlemen, you may not live to see it; I may not live to see it, but your children, and your children's children, will live to see in Fulton county every roadway and every byway graveled, from north to south, and east to west.' "

Few of the early pioneers, in the first days of settlement, were so imaginative, probably, as to even dream of graveled roads, and of those who met in the '70s, or '80s, to discuss the matter of graveling the roadways few perhaps thought the time of asphalted roads would ever come. And of those who came, in jolting springless wagons drawn by slow-moving oxen, in the '30s and '40s, and took a week to cover the distance from their home to the mill and back again, few there must have been who thought the time would ever come when it would be possible to travel from one end of the county to the other in a few hours of road travel. Few imagined the time would come when the mode of travel would so radically change that even the horse would be discarded, and that practically all the prosperous farmers would own mechanically-driven pleasure cars, and powerful swift-moving motor trucks by means of which they would be able to take their dairy product, morning after morning, ten, fifteen or twenty miles to market, without inconvenience; yes, and even do some of their tilling of the soil with mechanical implements. On the other hand, few of the pioneers, who were able to get so little, momentarily, in return for their hardest labor, would ever have imagined the time would come when the hired hand could demand a daily wage of $6, $7, or $8, during harvest time.

However, although the early settlers were simple in their lives and requirements, they were stalwart and resolute in purpose, and out of the wilderness they slowly, but surely, made a land of agriculture plenty. Through the throes of the fever and ague, which would prostrate whole families at one time, they conquered the Black Swamp, draining it acre by acre and putting its rich black soil to good use. It was not until 1859 that ditching was undertaken by the county commissioners, but the draining of land by individual owners must have commenced much earlier, for some parts of the county were actually under water, for acres. It seems almost incredible that men were to be had of sufficient courage to continue the struggle to conquer the disadvantages of the natural conditions present in the Black Swamp country during the first decades of white settlement. The pioneers literally gave their lives to development work. Racked by fever, palsied by the ague, and many suffering constantly from rheumatism contracted in the seemingly chronic dampness of the region, the pioneers still labored; the majority of them hopefully and cheerfully.

Settlers came in ever-increasing numbers during the '40's, and the western part of Lucas county had become so populous that it was felt, by the inhabitants of that section, that they might demand of the state more central and accessible facilities for the processes of judicial and civil government than obtained under the jurisdiction of the County of Lucas. Difficulties of travel in those days made a journey to Maumee City, the county seat, quite an undertaking, and, as the residents in the western and north-western parts of the county thought, quite an unnecessary journey. They felt that they were entitled to demand the erection of another county. Regarding this agitation, Miss Marie A. Hibbard, of Spring Hill, wrote, some years ago, her information being based upon family records, and upon the papers of her ancestor, Rev. Elisha Hibbard, of Dover Township. After referring to the organization of Dover Township, in 1843, she wrote:

"About this time, or a little later, the 'Men of the West', that is, the western part of Lucas county, began to agitate the question of the formation of a new county. Among Rev. Elisha Hibbard's papers are copies of contributions to the 'Maumee River Times', in which he gives reasons for desiring the separation; schools, taxes, better roads, and other improvements.

"The county seat was then at Maumee City, and there seems to have been a fear, apparently well founded, that if Lucas county should be divided, the county seat would be removed to Toledo. There seems to have been quite a lively discussion in the 'Maumee River Times' on the subject. The 'Men of the West' did not despair, however, for, under date of December 15, 1845, is this letter, written by Rev. Mr. Hibbard to his wife, from Columbus, where he had gone as a delegate to see what could be done. He writes: 'Fortune favors the brave. A favorable circumstance relative to my business here is that my old friend, Tom Irwin, is chairman of the committee on New Counties. I have not yet had an interview with him but expect to see him tomorrow. I have seen Parcher and Wood. Both are favorably inclined, and as yet I find no opposition. Tell them all not to be discouraged, everything appears favorable, and I shall do all that I can.'

"This Parcher may have been Lyman Parcher, and doubtless Wood was his cousin, Reuben Wood, afterward governor of Ohio."

Favorable action, however, was not destined to come in that year. Nevertheless the movement continued to gather strength, and in 1849 a determined effort was made to get the state to take action, many of the most influential residents identifying themselves actively with the movement. Among the principal projectors were:

Nathaniel Leggett, of Swan Creek; A. C. Hough and William Hall, of Chesterfield township; Stephen and Isaac Springer, Samuel Durgin, and others, of Fulton; Michael Handy, D. W. H. Howard, Robert Howard, and Lyman Parcher, of Pike; Mortimer B. Hibbard and Reuben Tiffany, of Dover; Ezekiel Masters and Joseph Ely, of Franklin; William Sutton, Israel Mattern, W. A. Mace, and Oliver B. Verity, of Gorham; James Cornell, John Newcomer and Elisha Huntington, of Clinton; Jacob Gasche and Jonathan Barnes, of German; Ben and George Hackett, of Amboy; and Eli Phillips, of Royalton.

Their activities quickly brought result, for the State Legislature on February 28, 1850, saw fit to set off, and erect, a new county, to be known by the name of Fulton, its powers and boundaries defined as follows:

"Sec. 1. Such parts of the counties of Lucas, Henry, and Williams as are embraced in the boundaries hereinafter described, be, and the same are hereby created into a separate and distinct county, which shall be known by the name of Fulton, to wit: Beginning on the State line between the States of Michigan and Ohio, at the northeast corner of township nine, south of range four, east of the Michigan meridian; thence south on the township line to the southeast corner of town ten, south of range four east, on the Fulton line; thence west on said Fulton line to the northeast corner of town eight, north of range eight, east; thence south to the southeast corner of section number twelve in township six, north of range eight, east; thence west, on section lines, to the southwest corner of section number seven, in township six, range five, east, on the county line between the counties of Henry and Williams; thence north on said line to the southeast corner of town seven, north of range four, east; thence north on section lines to the Fulton line; thence west on said Fulton line to the southwest corner of section number eleven, in town ten, south of range one, west of the Michigan meridian; thence north on section lines to the said state line; thence easterly with said state line, to the place of beginning."

So, the boundaries of Fulton County have since remained. Fulton County, which it is believed was so named in honor of Robert Fulton, the world-famed inventor, and not John A. Fulton, the survivor who ran the Fulton Line, was, it is interesting to note, the eighty-seventh of the eighty-eight counties erected within the present boundaries of the State of Ohio, the eighty-eighth county, Noble, being also created in 1850.

Temporary arrangements were made for continuing the civil and judicial administration under the former regime until such time as the newly created county could be properly brought into full operation, with county officers properly elected by public vote, and men appointed to those offices that were not elective. It was provided that legal cases then pending in the courts of Lucas, Williams, and Henry counties

should be continued to finality and decision, as though Fulton County had not been erected.

The first Monday of April, in that year, was specified in the act as the day upon which township elections should be held in the new county; and section six, of the creating act, provided that the county should be attached to the Thirteenth Judicial Circuit of the State of Ohio, and that the Court of Common Pleas, and Supreme Court of the County of Fulton, should be held at some convenient house in the Township of Pike, until such time as the permanent seat of justice had been established, and the necessary accomodation procured. Laurin Dewey, of Franklin county, Mathias H. Nichols, of Allen county, and John Riley, of Carroll county, were appointed commissioners to locate the seat of justice. Pending such location, the associate judges appointed by the act, namely John Kendall, Alfred C. Hough, and Nathaniel Leggett, his successor, who, one record states, was Socrates H. Cately, and another record William E. Parmelee, decided to hold the courts at the house of Robert A. Howard, in Pike Township.

Much regarding the important happenings of 1850 are recorded in "A Short History of Fulton County, Ohio," written by James S. Riddle, who was one of the active pioneer county officials. He wrote:

"On, or about, the 20th of March, 1850, the voters of the new county of Fulton met in mass convention, at the residence of Daniel Knowles, of Pike Township, for the purpose of placing before the people suitable candidates for the various offices in the county, to be elected on the 1st Monday of April, 1850, and organized by calling John Kendall, Esq., of Franklin Township, to the chair.

"A motion was made to nominate a union ticket composed of Whigs and Democrats, but the motion was strongly opposed by Samuel Gillis, William Sutton, and other Democrats, saying they would support none but Democrats. So each party filed off by themselves. A motion was then made by the Democrats to send a delegation of two Democrats from each township, to form a Democratic ticket. The delegation was composed of: Ben and George Hackett, of Amboy; Jenks Morey and Eli Phillips, of Royalton; William Sutton and Abe Mace, of Gorham; Dorsey Barnes and James Riddle, of Franklin; Joseph Jewell and John Tiffany, of Dover; M. Handy and Boyd Dunbar, of Pike; Stephen Springer and John Watkins, of Fulton; S. H. Cately and David Williams, of Swan Creek; Henry Fluhart and Samuel Biddle, of York; John Newcomer and Elisha Huntington, of Clinton; Jacob Gasche and Jonathan Barnes, of German. Said committee (delegation) proposed the names of Christ Watkins, of Fulton Township, Wm. Sutton, of Gorham Township, and Jonathan Barnes, of German Township, for commissioners; A. C. Hough, for auditor; and Nathaniel Leggett, for treasurer."

A. C. Hough, however, had been appointed associate judge by the Legislature, as had also Nathaniel Leggett, and neither could hold both offices, so, after further consideration the Democrats nominated Mortimer D. Hibbard, who had also been nominated by the Whigs, for the office of auditor, thus leaving Mr. Hough free to hold his judicial appointment; and as Nathaniel Leggett was also the nominee of the Whig party, and had also been the original choice of the Democrats making his election to the office of treasurer certain, there was no pur-

pose in his taking the temporary judgeship. Therefore he declined the appointment and stood for election as treasurer. Who the Whig candidates for election as county commissioners were is not on record, but the candidates for sheriff were: G. W. Brown, Democrat; Elijah Herrick, Whig. Carl Allman, of York, was the Democratic nominee for recorder. The Democratic party was undoubtedly very strong in Fulton county at that time, for at the April election, and at the October election of that year, all of the Democratic candidates were elected. Regarding those two elections, Mr. Riddle, in another article, wrote more clearly. He stated:

"As there were but two parties then (March, 1850) Whig and Democratic, a proposition was made to take one from each party, but was opposed by Samuel Gillis, William Sutton, and other Democrats.... So each party filed off by themselves, and the Democrats placed on their tickets for Commissioners, Chris. Watkins, of Fulton; Wm. Sutton, of Gorham; and Jonathan Barnes, of German; for Auditor, M. D. Hibbard, of Dover; for Treasurer, Nathaniel Leggett, of Swan Creek; for Sheriff, G. W. Brown, of Royalton; for Recorder, Carl Allman, of York.

The Whigs nominated M. D. Hibbard and Nat. Leggett as their candidates, and the balance Whigs. The Democrats were elected.

As Leggett could not serve as judge and treasurer both, he did not qualify as judge, and the Governor appointed William Parmelee in his place.

In the fall of 1850, the Democrats nominated for Commissioner: for three years, Chris Watkins, of Fulton; for two years, William Sutton, of Gorham. As Jonathan Barnes had died before the convention, Warren McCuthcheon, of German, was nominated in his place, for one year. For auditor, A. C. Hough, of Chesterfield; for Treasurer, Nat. Leggett, of Swan Creek; for Sheriff, G. W. Brown, of Royalton; for Recorder, Carl Allman, of York.

All the Democrats nominated at the convention were elected.

As the Judges had the appointing of the Clerk of the Court prior to this time, the Court was organized and Samuel Durgin was appointed Clerk. Judge Hough resigned, and A. M. Flickinger, of Gorham, was appointed in his place. Soon afterwards, Wm. E. Parmelee resigned, and S. H. Cately was appointed in his place."

It would seem that the first court held in Fulton county was in the fall of 1850, probably after the October election. In accordance with the provisions of the act by which Fulton county was created, the associate judges first appointed, or rather those who were the associate judges during the period from the first to the second election of 1850, namely John Kendall, A. C. Hough, and William E. Parmelee, designated the house of Robert A. Howard, in Pike Township as the place at which the judges would hold court until such time as a permanent seat of juctice had been selected, in accordance with the requirements of the act, but these three judges presumably did not sit in the first session of court.

Mary B. Howard, wife of Col. D. W. H. Howard, wrote, regarding the first court:

"Upon our return from our six months' experience in Iowa (which must have been in the latter half of 1850, for they did not go to Iowa

until 1850) we were guests of friends of Mr. Howard, in this county, and it was while visiting at Robert A. Howard's that I had the honor of attending the first court ever held in this county. The county seat had been located at Ottokee, but the court-house was not completed. His home was a large log building, with a big open fireplace, with a commodious sitting room, and it was in this room where court was held. Judge Saddler was present, and presided. . . . It was all very interesting to me."

Thomas Mikesell states that the associates of Judge Saddler in this first term of court were Socrates H. Cately, Abraham Flickinger, and William Parmelee; which statement seems to support the belief that the first court was held late in 1850, for although the Thomas Mikesell version does not agree with James S. Riddle's record (as a matter of

"Robert A. Howard's home was a large log building, with a big open fire-place."

fact, Riddle contradicted himself in a later article, stating that S. H. Cately was appointed judge, in place of Nathaniel Leggett, and W. E. Parmelee, vice Hough), it seems certain that John Flickinger's appointment resulted from the resignation of Judge Hough, so that the latter might become a candidate for county office in the October election of that year. In reality that session of court was not important, and is only noteworthy in that it was the first to be held in the newly erected county. There do not appear to have been any legal cases, criminal or otherwise, tried at that session. As a matter of fact, the courts of Lucas, Williams, and Henry continued to act in all cases that were pending at the time Fulton county came into existence and apparently no new cases had arisen. Indeed, it is on record that the judges who attended the first court of Fulton county so far departed, for a nonce, from the

dignity of the judiciary as to participate in a game of baseball, there being no legal business to ponder over and adjudicate.

In April of that year, the locating commissioners appointed by the State Legislature came to the county for the purpose of designating the county seat and, as might be supposed, there was much rivalry, it being generally recognized that the seat of justice wherever located would bring added importance and prosperity to that locality. The commissioners heard the arguments in favor of the suggested sites, which were: at the center of the county; at or near Robert A. Howard's farm in Pike Township; at Etna, in Pike Township; at Fluhart Corners, in York; at Delta, in York; and at Spring Hill, in Dover Township. They selected the geographical center of the county as the best location, and on the 1st day of May, 1850, staked the site. Mary Rice Hibbard, before quoted, made diary entries of all important county events during the early pioneer years, and many historical facts have been authenticated from that record. An entry in her diary under date of May 2, 1850, gives the information that "the county seat was located yesterday, at the Centre."

The "Centre" was given the distinctive and poetical name Ottokee, at the suggestion of Col. D. W. H. Howard, it has been stated. His life had been full of Indian experiences, his early days had been so fully associated with Indian scenes and life, that one would expect him, if asked for a name, to almost instinctively be prompted to perpetuate Indian memories. Ot-to-kee, brother of Wauseon, and both of them chiefs of the Ottawa tribe which had inhabited the Maumee Valley in earlier days, was worthy of remembrance; and Colonel Howard, who knew the real Indian character so well, ever showed himself wishful to defend the memory of the men of red skin, whom, in the main, he found to be innately honorable, and peaceably-minded. It is said that Col. Howard was noticed on the outskirts of the gathering (when stakes were driven, presumably), and was asked by one of the commissioners to suggest a name for the county seat, and that he immediately replied: "Ottokee." The action of the commissioners however did not settle the matter of site; it was still necessary to obtain general approval in a public vote. And confirmation did not come in the first vote taken; that did not give Ottokee a majority of the votes cast, although it received a greater number than were cast for any other proposed site. At the second election, Ottokee received a clear majority, and the county officials were then able to proceed with consideration of plans for the erection of buildings suitable for the purposes of the various offices of the county administration. A. H. Jordan, of Royalton Township, secured the contract for the building of the Court House, and completed it in 1851. It was a frame building, two stories high, with a frontage of about forty feet, and a depth of about eighty feet, a commodious building, made somewhat imposing and pretentious by being surmounted by a large dome. Judge W. H. Handy, wrote reminiscently of Ottokee, and said, regarding the Court House:

"Do you remember the old Court House? To us, it was a massive structure, with its two tall stories and high tower, which we used to climb into and think we could see the whole world. I used to go into the court house and go to sleep listening to the lawyers, when Judge Palmer was on the bench. Remember Judge Palmer, our first judge

under the new constitution? How some of the laywers got mad at him, and got Hank Hollister to draw a picture of him with a jackass' ears, and a certain lawyer addressing him, this lawyer being one who was said to own him."

Mrs. Mary B. Howard made reference to the opening of the first court house, at Ottokee: She wrote:

"It seems to me but yesterday since the first court house built in this county was dedicated. It was a grand affair, and prominent citizens from different parts of the county were present to take part in the dedication. After listening to a number of addresses, a grand ball was given, which continued until almost the break of day. It was a happy joyous assembly, composed of the early pioneers, the blushing maid and the awkward bashful boy who, at the end of nearly sixty years, have given the present generation one of the finest, most improved and richest agricultural counties in the state. Surrounded with all these blessings a shadow of sorrow flits across my mind, as I think that only one or two of those who were present at that happy event are left to tell of the dedication of Fulton county's first court house."

Probably at that ceremony and ball, most of the leading pioneers were present. And in culture, in true gentlemanliness, and in the refinements which are the heritages of some, that gathering probably would favorably compare with a like function in an eastern or southern community of that time. It would be erroneous to assume that, as the early pioneers in the first years of settlement in Fulton county were prepared to live under the most primitive conditions, they were crude and primitively inclined, in themselves. They were not. They were, rather, men and women of noble characteristics, whole-souled, and high-minded, and thus were able to hold their thoughts on a high moral plane, even though their hands became calloused by the incessant and determined hewing with the axe. The deportment of those who attended that first county ball was probably as gentlemanly and ladylike as one would take pride in noting in one's kin. The Hon. Oliver B. Verity, who probably takes first place among the historians of Fulton county, asserted, in an article on "The Pioneers of Fulton County," that:

"These early pioneers, the advance guard of a new civilization in the wilderness, were the best blood and brains of the eastern states which formed the main composition of this growing territory; whose fathers had educated their sons and daughters for the practical work of life, and they have in turn so left their impress upon your county by their virtues and acknowledgment of a Supreme Being, together with their stern political integrity and loyalty to the government—a rich inheritance to you, worthy your gratitude and care.....We are apt in our present imagination, especially the generation of today, when schools are the great boast of our civilization, to look back to these old pioneers as men of little culture and learning; but in this idea you are mistaken. These noble men and women came fresh from the schools of the East, and as a whole, for noble manhood and womanhood, stand as the peers of the present generation. There were many causes in that age which induced the preference of a free, manly independent life in the woods, enduring its hardships and privations, leaving behind friends and the refinements and luxuries of the civilization of their eastern home. Freedom was necessary for the life of these very men, and the

influence for good exerted by their teaching upon the future of your citizens will continue to widen while time lasts. We may boast of our refinement in this age, which is measured more by our large cash balances and fine clothing, which compels the churches to provide sittings for its poor, and builds up an aristocracy in your midst. In answer, let me quote the words of F. A. Dewey, before the Pioneer Association of Lenawee county (in which county part of what is now Fulton county once was): 'I claim that never in the history of the State has there been so much genuine manhood; so much of disinterested benevolence; of kindness of heart; so much of sociality, and, in the best sense of the word, of Christian good feeling, as evinced in the early settlement of the country. So far as these things, and many others growing out of them, are concerned, it was the Golden Age of the State.'"

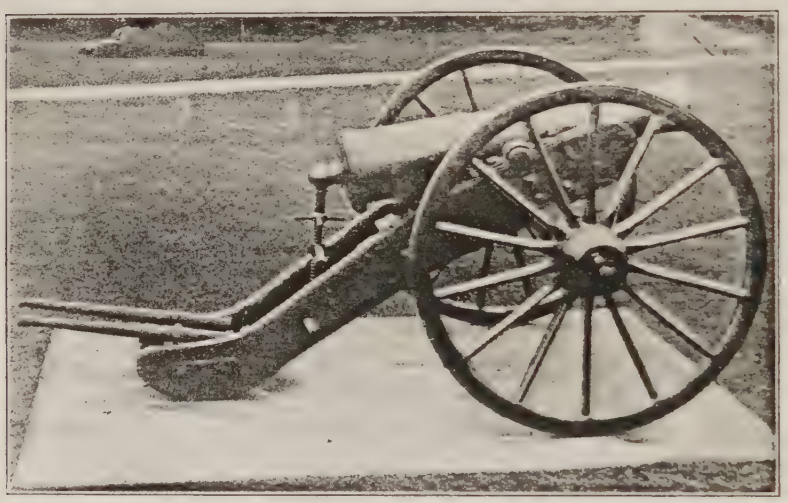
Consequently, the scions of the pioneers of Fulton county may take pride in that fact that the noteworthy characteristics of their ancestors did not begin and end in their ability to live in primitive surroundings while, by hard work, they built homes and independence for their children, and their children's children, out of the uninviting swamp and forest. There are very many records to prove that many of the pioneers who became prominent in township and county administration were men of broad knowledge, and strong personality.

Ottokee, for almost two decades was destined to be the center of the political and judicial life of Fulton county, even though its promising development of the first two or three years was to be checked and finally deadened by the rise of Wauseon, caused by the consummation of the railroad project which gave Wauseon ready communication east and west. In the early 'fifties, it was thought that Ottokee would have railroad facilities, and the original surveys passed through, or very near to, the county seat; consequently, real estate operators for a year or two were extraordinarily active. But, alas, when it became certain that the railroad would not pass through Ottokee, the place as a county seat was doomed. It struggled for many years to hold its dignified place, but eventually had to concede the right to Wauseon. Judge W. H. Handy some years ago wrote reminiscences of old Ottokee, finding happiness in recalling the days when that place was at the zenith of its importance among the communities of Fulton county. What great times they had in Ottokee in the 'fifties. At that time, Judge Handy was an active and observing boy. He writes:

"I have never seen old Ottokee written up. What a great old town it was, we kids thought, the greatest in the world. Its broad street and deep sand made a lovely place for boys, if it was not so well for business.

"Do you remember the old engine hall, which is still standing but changed? What a great building it was, with its stores and broom factory, and its office and living room upstairs. My, but we were proud of that. And then, our two hotels, as I recollect, the one with the sign 'Hotel by H. Taylor' on the north side, and Stow's Hotel on the south side. Once we had two newspapers, a blacksmith's shop and a couple of stores. H. Day will be a familiar recollection to very many. And then, how we kids would yell, when we thought of Delta and Wauseon down in the woods.....

"And then our old Fourth of July celebrations. They were the stuff. Always a salute of a hundred guns at sunrise. And we had a cannon, too, and we kept it, and fired it year after year, till Wauseon got big enough to steal it in the night, and haul it away and bury it. When we got it back, and had finally won, the war broke out, and it went to the front, as lots of the citizens of old Ottokee did.....These old-fashioned Fourth of July celebrations were great: processions and fireworks, and a great free dinner in the grove, south of the Court House. By the way, many of your readers will remember that free dinner when several barrels of cookies were bought in Toledo. When they were put on the table, they found that tallow had been used for shortening. I can taste them yet. What a kick that raised. And then, at night we did not have much in the way of fireworks, excepting bonfires and turpentine balls. I would like to see an old-fashioned turpentine-ball fight again. They would get barrels of candle wicking, roll



"AND WE HAD A CANNON, TOO, AND.....FIRED IT, YEAR AFTER YEAR, TILL WAUSEON GOT BIG ENOUGH TO STEAL IT IN THE NIGHT, AND HAUL IT AWAY AND BURY IT."
(Reminiscences of Old Ottokee—Judge W. H. Handy.)

into balls 5 or 6 inches in diameter, dip them in turpentine, set them on fire, and then throw them at one another. During the day, we always heard the Declaration of Independence, and a rip-roaring speech by some one like Octavius Waters, who could soar; and when it came to beautiful flights of oratory, nobody had it on Waters.

"But old Ottokee was only at the height of its glory in a political campaign. As the county seat in those days, it was political headquarters, and we always had a big political meeting. We Democratic kids, on days of big meets, always waited to see Royalton and Gorham come in. They were sure to come in long processions, headed by sheepskin bands, and some-where in each procession would be a big wagon, with pretty girls dressed in white, one for each state in the Union..... How we kids cheered them, and the men did lots of that, too. In those days, we (the Democrats) made about as good a show as the Republicans, much better in comparison than we did this fall. In

the campaign of '56, the Republicans rather got it on us, for the Losure boys, of Wauseon, organized the toughest looking gang you ever saw, armed with clubs and old guns, and they marched up to Ottokee in quite a procession, with a banner labelled: 'Border Ruffians of Kansas.' That was considered quite unkind. But the great celebration was after election. Then old Ottokee just bloomed. I could not in a half-hour tell of all the deviltry that used to be practiced by winners, on the losers, in old Ottokee after an election. The side that won would form a funeral procession, and get a cabbage head, or beet, or something of that kind, and march to the home of the defeated candidate, with a sheepskin band at their head, and after making the candidate get up, they would proceed solemnly to bury the cabbage, or beet, as an emblem of the defeated one, and hold solemn rites over his grave .....The first modern sort of campaign I remember was in '60, when the Wide-Awakes were organized, and their torch light procession. They were too many for us then, but we Douglas kids organized the Hickory Sprouts, and gave them the best we knew. And then came the war.....and many of the jovial spirits.....forgot politics and political campaigns, and, seeing only that the old flag was endangered, turned their faces south, and marched shoulder to shoulder to the front of battle, many of them never to return; and old Ottokee was gone forever. A different Ottokee took its place.....I drop a tear in memory of old Ottokee, and in its place there comes a smile of gratification that I ever knew the old town as it really was.....Old Ottokee contained the choicest collection of good spirits and good men that it has ever been my good fortune to know in the same number of inhabitants."

Such were some of the activities that centered in Ottokee during its era of county importance. Other much larger and more promising villages were envious of Ottokee, and tenaciously pursued the thought of drawing away from it the coveted seat of justice. That could not of course be accomplished without justifiable reason, but as the years passed and both Delta and Wauseon far outstripped Ottokee in business importance and in population, their arguments became more convincing, and that of Wauseon eventually prevailed over Ottokee's only logical claim, that of its central situation. Wauseon, in 1863, sought to secure the passage of an act by the State Legislature by which the seat of justice would be transferred to itself, if a majority of the citizens voted in favor of such removal. It secured the passage of the act, but the resulting public vote did not bring a majority to Wauseon. In the next year, 1864, Delta, acted similarly, and with like results, excepting that in that year, the agitation was made notable and memorable because of the destruction of the court house, by fire, while the agitation was at its highest. Of course, the razing of the Court House, which had cost the county about $4.000 or $5.000, was regrettable, and some people asserted that it was due to incendiarism; but the destruction of the whole of the early county records in the conflagration was a more serious loss. The records were lost for all time, but the building could be replaced, as in fact it was, Hiram Pritchard, in 1865, building a new court house, of brick. It was not so commodious as the first frame building, but it served for court purposes, and a separate building, on adjoining land, was used for offices and apartments of county officials. The transaction of legal business was however accomplished only by

much unnecessary inconvenience, and Wauseon continued its efforts to secure the county seat. In 1869 another "enabling" act was passed by the State Legislature, and provided that in case a public vote proved that the majority of the people favored such action, the seat of justice could be transferred to Wauseon, if private citizens of Wauseon bore $5,000 of the $25,000 the erection of a new court house and county jail would entail. The responsible leaders of the faction which favored the removal entered upon an active campaign throughout the county prior to the voting date, the campaign committee being composed as follows: N. W. Jewell, chairman; J. R. Hibbard, secretary; Alfred C. Hough, John Newcomer, John Spillane, Joel Brigham, Alanson Pike and Anson Huntington. They took advantage of the publicity possible in the local newspapers, the Wauseon "Republican" publishing in its columns many explanatory articles. Those who opposed the removal raised the question of the loss to the county, in case of removal, of the land at Ottokee deeded to it by Burdick Burtch, Alonzo Knapp, and William Jones, but opinions, by Judge R. C. Lemmon and Chief Justice Waite, were published to show that by the terms of the deeds the county would still hold the land, even in the event of the removal of the county seat from Ottokee.

Livermore and Munn, on September 29, 1869, wrote, for publication in the local newspapers, a letter which promised to "give to the County Commissioners the right to erect the county buildings on our Park, at the south end of Fulton Street, (Wauseon) free of cost to the county"; and E. L. Barber and John H. Sargent, orginal proprietors of Wauseon, offered to donate lots upon which the court house and county offices might be built; while the county commissioners, Joseph Ely, A. B. Gunn, and M. C. McCaskey, estimated "that a building suitable for offices and court room can be built at a cost not to exceed fifteen thousand dollars; and that the entire cost of court house and jail will not exceed twenty-five thousand dollars." They also invited "a candid consideration of the facts and figures" proving that a levy of seven mills would be sufficient to cover the cost entailed by removal of the county seat from Ottokee to Wauseon." Thus presented, the question went before the voters; and on this occasion Wauseon received a safe majority of the votes cast. The five thousand dollars demanded of those who desired the change was quickly subscribed and handed to the county commissioners, as was also deed for lots 149 and 189 of the original plat of Wauseon, which lots were situated on the southwest corner of Fulton and Chestnut streets. The contract for the building of a court house was soon afterwards let, to F. M. Brooker, who however failed to give the required bond. The construction was therefore entrusted to Alexander Voss and H. B. Bensman, whose bid was $44,350. This, of course, was far in excess of the estimate made by the commissioners, but apparently the specifications called for a much more pretentious and substantial building than they had had in mind. The court house is, as it quite appropriately should be, one of the finest buildings in the county. It is of brick construction throughout, with tower and belfry, and its interior, even now after a lapse of fifty years, appears adequate for county purposes. The building was first used for court purposes in the early part of 1872.

J. W. Roseborough, above date of May 18, 1871, and under the cap-

tion: "The Last Court at Ottokee," wrote as follows: "The Court of Common Pleas of Fulton County, for the year 1871 has closed its Spring term. Ottokee, for the last time in all probability, has witnessed the people of the county assembling in its limits to attend a county court, and to transact the business pertaining to the highest judicial tribunal of the county. The term was a short, but busy, one.

FULTON COUNTY COURT HOUSE, WAUSEON.

A feeling very similar to that experienced when about to remove from an old house to a new mansion, seemed to be generally felt. Still, it is very doubtful whether the cause of impartial justice can be any more promoted in Wauseon than it has been in Ottokee. But it is probable that Wauseon will be a more convenient and pleasant place for dispensing justice."

Evidently, it was not the last term of court at Ottokee, for the same writer, in a letter, addressed from Wauseon, Fulton County, February 22, 1872, begins:

"The county seat in this county has been removed from Ottokee to this place. On the thirteenth of this month, the first term of the Court of Common Pleas commenced here. It was held in the new magnificent court house, and continued one week. There was more than a usual amount of business done by the grand jury."

However, the inevitable had happened, and although the county jail continued for some years to be situated at Ottokee, that also eventually was located at Wauseon, its situation being in Chestnut street, immediately in the rear of the court house.

Fulton county was making rapid strides. On August 19, 1872, under the nom de plume of "Ranger," a prominent resident wrote to the "Republican" as follows:

"To a person who had visited and traversed this county twenty years ago, and who should now do so, the changes that have been made would seem very great. It is doubtful whether another county in the

Reclamation of Black Swamp.

State has made during that time greater and more lasting rural improvements. Large quantities of land which twenty years ago few men would have taken as a present, owing to the wet and swampy condition of the same, has been converted into tillable soil of the very best quality. On the 'openings,' where it used to be said that it would require three acres to grow a single onion, we now see splendid crops growing. Those used to black soil, and accustomed to associate that color with fertility, and vice versa, are surprised to see the yellow sand of these openings producing abundantly every kind of grain. All over the county, the land, the most difficult of cultivation, either has been, or is rapidly being put into a tillable condition.

"Everywhere, on the 'openings,' neat residences are being erected, fences built, grounds cultivated, orchards planted, etc., and the whole changed from what once seemed barren desolation, to an appearance of thrift and prosperity.

"The extensive and judicious system of drainage, which has ob-

DESTRUCTION DONE AT SWANTON, BY THE TERRIBLE TORNADO OF PALM SUNDAY, MARCH 28, 1920.

tained in our county, has been of incalculable service in developing and making available the intrinsic wealth of our soil. The evidence of individual industry and general prosperity, that one everywhere meets in passing over our county, is most cheering.

"When we consider the richness of our soil, the intelligence of our people, the number of our churches and schoolhouses, post offices, market and railroad facilities, we have reason to be proud of our county."

The reclamation of the Black Swamp has been one of the worthwhile contributions of the state and nation. The pioneers of the county, either in their separate individual capacities, or severally, under the direction of township, and county administrations, undertook a stupendous work, and carried it through to complete success. Ditch draining was begun in 1859, in accordance with the provisions laid down by the State Legislature, and this system has been supplemented by much tilling, individual land owners spending much money in such improvements. The streams of Fulton County are not large, the principal ones being: Bean Creek, or Tiffin River, the largest watercourse in the county. It follows a southwesterly course, through Gorham, Franklin and German townships, having many tributaries which facilitate drainage; Mill Creek, in northeast Gorham, a small stream; Brush Creek, which passes through Dover, Clinton, and German townships; Bad Creek, which rises in Pike, touches York, and passes through Swan Creek township, into Henry County, in the south; Swan Creek, the source of which is in Fulton township. It flows south and east, through Swan Creek Township, into Lucas County; Blue Creek, which originates in central Swan Creek Township, and flows south, and east into Lucas County; Ten Mile Creek, which passes through Amboy and Royalton townships, running east and northeast into Lucas County.

Fulton County, at its highest point is scarcely 250 feet above lake level, and much of it is low-lying, and the work of reclamation at one time proceeded at such a rapid rate that "at least 100 miles of ditching" had been carried out within the first ten years, from 1859. Ditching projects were begun in 1859 in Royalton, Pike, York, German, Clinton, Franklin, and Swan Creek townships; in Amboy and Fulton townships in 1862; in Chesterfield and Dover townships, in 1864; and in Gorham Township in 1865. And the benefit arising from such work was soon evident throughout the county, very little of which remained uncultivated.

Geological, meteorological and phenological conditions in Fulton County have been extensively reviewed in former county histories, especially in Thomas Mikesell's work (1905), so that it will be unnecessary here to give space to such records. Details of the destruction caused by the most recent tornado will be found in the chapter devoted to the recording of the history of Swan Creek Township, which suffered so severely from the tornado of 1920.

Enterprising pioneers early saw the advantages that would follow improvements in transportation facilities, and even before the erection of Fulton County its pioneers sought to interest capitalists to support the laying of a railroad through the county. In 1846-47 several supported a project to build a railroad from Cleveland or Norwalk, running westward, and crossing the Maumee River at the foot of the rapids, the intention being eventually to connect with Chicago market. Much work was done, and the abutments of bridge which was to span the

Maumee began to appear, at least on the southern bank, and surveys had already been undertaken in Fulton County, with the consequent wide discussion such preparations would prompt among a people which had hitherto been denied railway facilities. However, the corporation was evidently not financially strong, and although much of its stock was taken by people of Fulton County, it never carried through the project. Possibly that project, which was known as the Junction Railroad, was abandoned mainly because of the laying of another railway, known as the "Air Line," which was decided upon and carried through with comparatively great rapidity by a much stronger railroad corporation than was that which began the work of laying the Junction Railroad. The coming of the "Air Line" railroad to Fulton County is fully described in the Clinton Township chapter of this work; and reference is there made to later railroad developments in the county, making it therefore superfluous to review it further here.

Politically, Fulton county in its earliest days, when the principal parties were whig and democratic, was distinctly democratic, the pioneer elections returning only democrats to office. There were however few elective county offices under the old constitution, which placed with the State Legislature the power to appoint county officials other than sheriff and coroner, or to prescribe the mode of filling such offices. It seems that in Fulton County pioneer elections, the elective offices were those of sheriff, auditor, recorder, treasurer, and the three commissioners. The offices of associate judge, clerk of courts, and prosecuting attorney, were appointive. However the new constitution of the state of Ohio came into effect in 1851 under which the offices formerly appointive became elective. Another change was the creation of the office of probate judge, such work under the old order being within the jurisdiction of the common pleas judges. Fulton County does not appear to have elected a coroner until 1864.

The whig party was never strong in Fulton county, but a change soon came. James S. Riddle, in his "Short History of Fulton County, Ohio," states that:

"The Democratic Convention the same year (1854) nominated Martin H. Butler, of York, as Auditor; Isaac Springer, of Fulton, as Treasurer; C. D. Smith, of Royalton, as Sheriff; Wm. Dye, of Clinton, as Commissioner. Some were dissatisfied, and a people's convention was called, which nominated M. D. Hibbard, of Dover, as Auditor; Wm. Jewell, as Treasurer; Geo. Taft, of York, as Commissioner; and E. Herrick, as Sheriff. M. D. Hibbard was elected Auditor, and Geo. Taft as Commissioner, the balance of the Democrats were elected by from 25 to 90 votes."

So, the democratic stronghold in Fulton county was undermined, the passing of the whig and the organization of the republican party effecting a distinct change in local politics. Mr. Riddle records that:

"In 1856, the republican party was organized, and elected all their officers, except Auditor A. C. Hough, who was elected to that office, being the only successful candidate on the democratic ticket.....In 1858, James K. Newcomer was elected Recorder on the democratic ticket. That was the last democrat holding a county office until 1880, when George Gasche was elected Commissioner."

The republican predominance has continued almost uninterrupted to the present.

Fulton County's Civil List

Although, it is not necessary here to give biographical reviews of those prominent and capable citizens who have participated in the administration of the county, biographical reference being made to many in the township chapters, and extensively to some, in the second, the biographical, volume of this current historical work, it would be proper to list here the names of those who undertook county office. Review of the judiciary and legal offices is made in another chapter, which, with the following statistics will complete the list. Congressmen, and state senators are not listed, the districts covering a greater area than that of Fulton county, and those elected consequently being not always men of Fulton county. It may, however, be stated that the following leading citizens of this county have held senatorial office: Dresden W. H. Howard, John A. Wilkins, Joseph H. Brigham, William Geyser, John C. Rorick.

Beginning, therefore, with state representatives, the statistics are:

State Representatives

1852, Lucius B. Lathrop; 1854, Samuel Durgin; 1856, Lucius H. Upham; 1858, Samuel A. Raymond; 1860, Dennison Steele; 1862, Ezekiel Masters; 1864, Octavius Waters; 1866, E. Masters; 1868, Amos Hill; 1872, Ezra Mann; 1876, John Fenton; 1880, Charles L. Allen; 1884, Albert Deyo; 1888, Estell H. Rorick; 1892, L. G. Ely; 1896, William A. Scott, Jr.; 1900, Charles L. Allen; 1904, Frank Briggs; 1908, Arthur B. Canfield; 1912, Frank H. Reighard; 1918, C. K. Miller.

Recorders

Carl Allman, four years; Joseph Jewell, two years; S. B. Darby, four years; R. H. Howard, three years; J. K. Newcomer, three years; W. H. Stevens, Jr., nine years; Richard Taylor, Albert S. Bloomer, Harrison E. Randall, A. M. Lee, George Lee. H. E. Prentiss, Frank W. Zerman, John Theobald, four years; C. L. Reed, four years; and Ralph Robinson, present occupant.

Auditors

Mortimer D. Hibbard, April, 1850; Alfred C. Hough, October, 1850; Mortimer D. Hibbard, 1854; A. C. Hough, 1856; Jason Hibbard, 1858; Ozias Merrill, 1866; L. G. Ely, 1870; Isaac Springer, 1877; A. W. McConnell, 1883; Thomas Kelley (by appointment), A. W. McConnell, 1888; Wm. W. Croninger, 1889; Harrison W. Ely, 1895; James E. Merrill, 1901; Charles J. Ives, 1908; Wm. W. Ackerman, 1912; Fred E. Perry, 1916-20.

Commissioners

Dates up to 1864 cannot, unfortunately, be given, for the records were destroyed in the gutting by fire of the court house, on July 15th of that year, but James S. Riddle gives the terms in office of the early commissioners as follows: Christ. Watkins, six years and six months;

William Sutton, five years, eight months; Jonathan Barnes, four months; Warren McCutcheon, three years, four months; Stephen Houghton, six years; E. Masters, three years; Joseph Ely, fifteen years (part of which presumably comes into the record after 1864); A. B. Thompson, nine years; A. B. Gunn, six years; George Taft, three years; Joel Brigham, five years; James Cornell, ten months; William Dye, six months; Henry Jordan, three years; Elias Richardson, six years. Elias Richardson, apparently, entered upon his second term of three years in 1864, and the record from that year is: Joseph Ely, 1865; A. B. Gunn, 1866; Milton O. McCaskey, 1867; Joseph Ely, 1868; A. B. Gunn, 1869; A. B. Thompson, 1870; H. A. Canfield, 1871; Joseph Shadle, 1872; A. B. Thompson, 1873; D. B. Allen, 1874; Joseph Shadle, 1875; A. B. Thompson, 1876; E. L. Barber, 1877; Richard H. Scott, 1878; Charles Blake, 1879; E. L. Barber, 1880; Richard H. Scott, 1881; Charles Blake, 1882; Charles H. VanOstrand, 1883; James C. Vaughan, 1884; Henry H. Williams, 1885; Sylvester W. Baum, 1886; James C. Vaughan, 1887; Daniel T. Biddle, 1888; George W. Walters, 1889; Jonathan C. Cornell, 1890; Daniel T. Biddle, 1891; George W. Walters, 1892; J. C. Cornell, 1893; William A. Fenton, 1894; James K. Campbell, 1895; Leander Buxton, 1896; William A. Fenton, 1897; James K. Campbell, 1898; Leander Buxton, 1899; Edgar Ritchie, 1900; George D. Newcomer, 1901; Charles H. Stutesman, 1902; E. H. Ritchie, 1903; George D. Newcomer, 1904; C. H. Stutzman and John Robasser, in 1906; G. R. Shaffer, E. B. Robinson and C. H. Stutzman, in 1908; G. R. Shaffer, A. Q. Price, and E. B. Robinson, in 1910; A. Q. Price, John Barden and Frank Griffin, in 1912; John Bardin, Frank Griffin and Clark Aumend, in 1914; Clark Aumend, Albert Edgar and E. E. Spring, in 1916; and Charles H. Leist, Albert Edgar, and E. E. Spring, in 1918.

Treasurers

The destruction of county records in 1864 makes it impossible now to state the years of office of the first three county treasurers. Nathaniel Leggett took office in 1850, being elected, unopposed, at the April election of 1850. He was treasurer for five years, but whether for five successive years is not clear. Isaac Springer succeeded him, and was treasurer for four years. Next, in order of election to the treasureship was Julius March, who served for four years. L. L. Carpenter was in office in 1864, and altogether served four years. The succession since has been: A. B. Canfield, 1866; David Ayers, 1870; Hiram L. Moseley, 1874; Jared M. Longnecker, 1878; Thomas A. Kelley, 1879; James W. Howard, 1881, John B. Schnetzler, 1885; Jacob S. Newcomer, 1889; A. C. Daniels, 1893; J. F. Grove, 1897; C. E. Guilford, 1901; G. W. Howard, 1905; Dorr S. Knight, 1910; G. Scott Roos, 1914; and C. F. Orth, 1918-20.

Coroners

W. M. Schnetzler, 1864; Josiah H. Bennett, 1865; John Fenton, 1866; Charles M. Canfield, 1868; John Odell, 1871; S. T. Worden, 1875; Charles E. Bennett, 1879; George W. Hartman, 1883; L. E. Miley, 1887; S. Odell, 1892; Hal M. Parker, 1896; J. Howard John-

son, 1901; Louis C. Cosgrove, 1908; Henry W. Shaffer, 1910; C. F. Hartman, 1914; Park S. Bishop (appointed), 1917; John A. Wilkins, 1918.

Surveyors

John Spillane, 1865; O. E. M. Howard, 1868; Anthony B. Robinson, 1871; Lucius B. Fraker, 1883; M. B. Hoyt, 1892; Frank H. Reighard, 1895; John F. Hettinger, 1902; O. U. Griffin, 1909; Clyde O. Castle, 1913; Cornelius P. Weber, 1917; R. I. Bernath, 1919.

Further statistics will be included in the capter on the Bench and Bar of Fulton county.

To close this chapter, it might be appropriate to give census statistics, as far as there is record. The 1840 figures of course are not of Fulton county, but of eight townships of Lucas county, and probably do not include the figures for those portions of Williams and Henry counties ceded to Fulton county, when the latter was erected in 1850. And the 1920 figures are only those of the "Preliminary Announcement of Population" issued in June, 1920, by the Bureau of the Census, Washington. However, so far as it is possible to give the statistics, the

Population of Fulton County

According to the decadal census since 1840, is as follows: 1840, 3,190; 1850, 7,780; 1860, 14,043; 1870, 16,089; 1880, 20,114; 1890, 22,023; 1900, 22,801; 1910, 23,914; 1920, 23,445. The township statistics for 1920 are: Amboy, 1,522; Chesterfield, 1,012; Clinton, 4,778; Dover, 990; Franklin, 926; Fulton, 1,677; German, 3,173; Gorham, 2,076; Pike, 1,001; Royalton, 1,135; Swan Creek, 2,356; and York, 2,835 These figures include the population of the incorporated places of the county. The separate figures for these incorporated places are: Archbold, 1,125; Delta, 1,543; Fayette, 936; Lyons, 329; Metamora, 484; Swanton, 1,243; and Wauseon, the county seat, 3,035.

CHAPTER V

FULTON COUNTY'S WAR RECORD

Fulton county was not organized until 1850, and was not settled until 1833, anterior to which its inhabitants were of Indian tribes. Yet, Fulton county may claim that its military history began with the Revolutionary war, for at least one of its ultimate residents saw national service in that portentous struggle which was destined to give the United States a place among nations. Ephraim Pennington, who came with his son, William to Fulton county in 1847, and settled in Chesterfield Township, where he died at the venerable age of ninety years, was a soldier of the Revolution, and as such is entitled to the place of honor in the record of the patriots of Fulton county.

Next, chronologically, come those patriots who offered and gave their services to the nation in the War of 1812. Names listed below are those of veterans of that war who later became residents of Fulton county, and were eventually buried within its borders. There were twenty-two, in all:

Abbott, Henry	Knapp, Archy	Shepler, Martin
Barden, Jacob	Lamb, Avery	Smith, William
Briggs, Alanson	Marks, Comfort	Tiney, Richard
Bundy, Caleb	Robinson, William	Trowbridge, Willard
Carpenter, Samuel	Root, Jesse	Wilbur, Radford
Culver, Timothy	Saulpaugh, Philip R.	Wilson, William M.
Huntington, Alanson	Sheely, Andrew	Wilbur, John Morse.
Gorsuch, Nathan		

Then there were those resolute men, of the actual early settlers in what is now part of Fulton county, who rallied to the call of the state, when it seemed that war with Michigan would result from the boundary dispute in the '30s, but the names of those mobilized men can hardly be brought into this record, for war did not then come, fortunately.

The Civil War

The great test of patriotism came in 1861-65, and in the records of that dark time of civil war Fulton county has a glorious place, giving practically all of its physically-fit man-power to the Union. When it is known that the population of Fulton county in 1861 was only about fourteen thousand, and that during the years of war it sent into the field much more than a thousand men it will be realized how strong was the spirit of patriotism, and how brave the hearts, within the sturdy frames of the pioneer settlers of Fulton county. During America's part of the World war, 1917-18, Fulton county sent into service about eight hundred men, out of a population of

more than 24,000. The Civil war period will be thus, in this respect, the most glorious in the war history of Fulton county.

Space is not here available, unfortunately, to enter as fully as former historical works have into the restating of the deeds of the various military units in which Fulton county men were during the Civil war. It is therefore pleasing to know that complete record has already permanent place in county and national historical works, and that thus the sacrifices and triumphs of the noble men who marched away from Fulton county to emancipate the slave have been placed in proper record for posterity. Briefly reviewing the Civil war period of Fulton county history, it should be stated that, according to former county historians, 2,207 Fulton county men actually entered the service, and that of that number 1,457 men were mustered into the service for three years; 102 men for one year of service, 94 men for six months of service; 216 men for three months; 254 for an enlistment of 100 days; and the remainder for miscellaneous periods in various regiments. Those statistics are taken from the military chapter, written by Maj. Moses R. Brailey, for the "History of Henry and Fulton Counties" (Aldrich, 1888). There probably, however, was some duplication, and the names of some would appear in the rosters of more than one regiment, or unit. Consequently, for the present recording, the list compiled for the purposes of the Fulton County Soldiers' and Sailors' Memorial and Monumental Association, by Allen Shadle, commander of the Losure Post, No. 35 (Wauseon) of the Grand Army of the Republic, will be taken. Said list shows the names of only 1,318 men, but it was patiently and painstakingly compiled, with a particular and important object in view, and may be assumed to be the most authentic list extant. It opens with the names of Fulton county men who saw service with the

Sixty-Eighth Infantry,

which was recruited in the counties of Defiance, Fulton, and Henry, Paulding and Williams, during the autumn and winter of 1861-62. The regiment commenced to rendezvous at Camp Latty, Napoleon, Ohio, on November 21, 1861. On January 5, 1862, the regiment moved to Camp Chase, where it remained until February 7th, when it was transferred to Fort Donelson, Tennessee, at which station it arrived on the 14th. It took part in the operations there, being assigned to Gen. Charles F. Smith's division. After the surrender, the regiment encamped near Dover until the 15th of March, when it moved to Metal Landing, on the Tennessee, and from there to Crump's Landing, and thence to Pittsburgh Landing, in this time being reduced in numbers, chiefly by sickness, from 1,000 to 300 men. At Pittsburgh Landing it was part of Gen. Lew Wallace's division. It took part in the operations before Corinth, and after the evacuation was stationed at Bolivar, Tennessee. The regiment closed the campaign of 1862 by forming the advance of an expedition which attempted to get into the rear of Vicksburg, by way of Holly Springs and Granada, Mississippi. After the surrender of Holly Springs, the Sixty-Eighth returned to Memphis. During the campaign in Mississippi the regiment was assigned to the Second Brigade, Third Division

Seventeenth Army Corps, as a unit of which it remained until the close of the war. During its term of service, the regiment was on the "sacred soil" of every rebel state except Florida and Texas. It marched over seven thousand miles, and travelled by railroad and steamboat over six thousand miles. Between 1,900 and 2,000 men belonged to the regiment, and of these ninety per cent were native Americans, the others being German, Irish, or English. The muster out rolls were signed on the 10th of July, and the regiment was ordered from Louisville, Kentucky, to Camp Taylor, near Cleveland, for payment and discharge, which was accomplished on the 18th of July, 1865. The record of the regiment was a worthy one. The regiment was organized in the State of Ohio, at large, in October, November and December, 1861, to serve three years. On the expiration of its term of service, the original members, except veterans, were mustered out, and the organization, composed of veterans and recruits, retained in service until July 10, 1865. The list of battles "compiled after careful research, credits this regiment with participation in the following: Thompson's Hill, Mississippi, May 1, 1863; Champion Hills, Mississippi, May 16, 1863; siege of Vicksburg, Mississippi, May 18 to July 4, 1863; Clinton and Jackson, Mississippi, February 5, 1864; Kenesaw Mountain, Georgia, June 9 to 30, 1864; Big Shanty, Georgia, June 15, 1864; Kenesaw Mountain, general assault, June 27, 1864; Atlanta, Georgia, (Hood's first sortie) July 24, 1864; siege of Atlanta, Georgia, July 28 to September 2, 1864; Jonesboro, Georgia, August 31 to September 1, 1864; Lovejoy Station, Georgia, September 2 to 6, 1864. As will have been noticed, the Sixty-Eighth Regiment took part in Sherman's famous march to the sea. Many Fulton county men stayed with it until the final muster out, but individual service records cannot be here stated. The Fulton county men of the Sixty-Eighth Regiment were:

Austin, James
Bates, Charles
Biery, Samuel
Bartlet, Jacob
Baer, Abe
Brink, Watson
Belding, Mortimer
Bayes, Thomas
Barnes, F. M.
Burk, F. M.
Burk, J.
Clark, W. B.
Cornell, Charles W.
Cox, S.
Culbertson, J.
Coleman, John
Coleman, Benj.
Coleman, Oscar
Creglow, Noah
Dickson, C.
Eaton, Ezra
Emerick, J. P.
Fowler, John
Fowler, Ben
Fouty, S.
Foster, D.
Ford, Henry F.
Galman, Joseph
Galbraith, James
Graetz, F. L.
Grice, F.
Hall, Morgan
Highshew, W. H.
Hart, Julius
Hayward, R. D.
Hall, L.
Hoffmire, J. R.
Higby, W.
Hutchins, M.
Hale, Smith
Jones, D. W.
Losier, J. J.
Lyons, E.
Lorimer, L. L.
Lyon, S.
Lingle, B.
Lingle, Elmer Y.
Lingle, W. A.
Mattison, G. F.
Miller, S. A.
Markley, G. H.
Mikesell, J. B.
Miley, Ben
Miller, Warren T.
Myers, Lorenzo,
Myers, Herman
Myers, George W.
Miller, Eli
Moyer, Daniel
Osborn, Geo.
Oldfield, Gilbert
Onweller, James
Palmer, Martin

Pontious, David	Raker, Oliver	Schenk, Conrad
Pomeroy, Timothy	Rosey, Joseph	Stites, J. B.
Pannel, J.	Roger, Elmer	Stites, Amaza
Purdy, A.	Robinson, Frank B.	Tator, Hiram
Purdy, J.	Robinson, Lorenzo	Turpining, W.
Rashley, Solomon,	Sommers, Martin	Warner, D.
Richards, Israel	Shank, H.	Warner, O. B.
Richards, W. S.	Skeels, Nelson	Wilcox, William
Richards, Curtis	Sheelenberger, D.	Waters, W. A.
Reece, S.	Sweeney, Elijah	Wilcox, A.
Reece, C. M.	Scott, Caleb	Williams, Wm.
Remo, Fred	Stewart, J. C.	Wright, Nathan
Radcliff, T.	Schenk, Henry	

The majority of these men belonged to Company E, which was commanded by a gallant Fulton county man, Nelson A. Skeels, until he was killed in action, in the battle of Atlanta, Georgia, July 22, 1864.

Next on the list is the

Eighty-Sixth Regiment of Infantry

which was recruited from the northern counties of Ohio, for a service of six months. Fulton county contributed one whole company Company H. The regiment was organized at Camp Cleveland, and recruited to a full regiment in the months of June and July, 1863. At about the time of its organization, the rebel general, John Morgan, was making his northern raid through Indiana into Ohio. The regiment therefore went at once actively into the field, and on arrival of the unit at Zanesville, 200 men, under Lieutenant-Colonel McFarland, were sent to Eagleport, where it was thought Morgan would attempt to cross the Muskingum. The detachment arrived just in time to witness the crossing of the rearguard. Colonel McFarland, by skillful skirmishing detained the enemy, thus helping General Shackleford who was pursuing. The remainder of the Eighty-Sixth were soon on the spot and joined in the pursuit, the rebels eventually being overtaken and captured, near Salineville, Columbiana county. Thus, the Eighty-Sixth, in its "Baptism of Fire" acquitted itself creditably. It did much other useful service during that year, particularly at Cumberland Gap, and on the 16th of January, 1864, the time for which the regiment was enlisted having expired, the unit began its march to Ohio, after seven days reaching Nicholsville. It arrived at Cleveland on January 26, 1864, and was mustered out on the 10th of February, of that year. The list gives the following names as those of Fulton county men who saw service with the Eighty-Sixth Regiment of Infantry:

Aultman, Solomon	Bayes, Henry	Blizzard, E. W.
Anchutz, P. H.	Bayes, P. H.	Briggs, E. W.
Burtch, Adoniram	Bayes, J. E.	Bulger, Haman
Beaverson, Fred	Bancroft, Henry	Cartleberry, Wm.
Bayes, Wesley	Brigham, H. T.	Cartleberry, Levi

Cunningham, David
Cameron, William
Dinnius, John W.
Donahue, John
Durbin, Preasley
Fairchilds, Silas
Faylor, Nelson
Fouty, Spencer
Fouty, John
Gleason, Warren
Holmes, A. J.
Hodges, Samuel
Hodges, Josiah
Hoffmire, F. G.
Hughes, Hugh
Haley, Lorenzo
Harrington, L. W.
Halwick, Gabeil
Hardy, Warren
Hogeboom, Abe
Handy, Wm. H.
Kinney, Henry
Kelly, G.
Lozure, Marion
Lyon, Cyrus
Long, Martin
Moyer, Edward
Mikesell, Thomas
Mikesell, Andrew
McKibben, Robert
Pontious, Isaac M.
Rex, John
Reece, Lowell
Raker, Martin
Rice, Edward
Smith, Warren
Smith, John D.
Schlappi, James
Shulters, W. D.
Shank, C.
Scott, David
Schwain, Peter
Spring, Cornelius M.
Tabor, Philip
Vine, Jacob
Wise, Harris
Wood, A. A.
Williams, T. F.
Wise, Harrison
Warner, Joe
Wilson, George

Fulton county contributed 302 men to the

Sixty-Seventh Regiment, Ohio Volunteer Infantry

in which two regiments, the Forty-Fifth and the Sixty-Seventh, were merged, in the winter of 1861-62. The regiment left Columbus for the front on January 19, 1862, going to West Virginia, where it saw much skirmishing during the next two months. On March 14th, the regiment met the enemy at Winchester and the next day was ordered to reinforce General Taylor's brigade. It sustained forty-two casualties in the subsequent engagement. For three months thereafter, the regiment was on the march through Virginia, and on June 29th embarked on a steamer and barge for the James River, to reinforce General McClellan. At Harrison's Landing, it campaigned with the Army of the Potomac until McClellan retreated from the Peninsula, when it marched to Suffolk, Virginia. The regiment had by that time been reduced by actual fighting and by sickness to approximately one-third of its normal strength. On April 2, 1863, it landed on Cole's Island, and for seven months thereafter endured the hardships of siege, participating in the charge on Fort Wagner. Then followed an expedition into Florida. The regiment joined General Butler at Bermuda Hundred on May 6, 1864, and on the ninth was detached to guard the flank of the Tenth Army Corps, at Chester railroad station. Severe fighting took place there, but the Sixty-Seventh maintained its position, although it lost on May 10th seventy-six officers and men, killed and wounded. Later in that month in one charge the regiment sustained almost as many casualties. On the 16th of August, four companies of the Sixty-Seventh charged the rifle pits at Deep River, and although at the first volley of the rebels one-third of the charging column fell, the rifle pits were captured before the rebels could reload. During 1864 the regiment was under fire 200 times, and lost heavily in killed and wounded during that time. In 1865, the regiment distinguished itself before Petersburg, and led the charge on Fort Gregg and Appomattox Courthouse. The

regiment was eventually one of the units reviewed at the Grand Review, at Washington, and was one of the last regiments to be mustered out, which event did not come until December 12, 1865. Fulton county men of the Sixty-Seventh Regiment were:

Adamson, Robert
Aldrich, Harvey L.
Baer, Unas
Boyer, Simeon J.
Brown, Isaac
Brown, Dan
Buehrer, Andrew
Batdorf, John
Barnes, George
Bennet, Harrison
Brown, John
Bower, George
Brockway, Charles
Brenaman, Benjamin
Bailey, John T.
Blain, Wellington
Becker, David
Barden, Fred
Baxter, James
Beckham, S.
Blain, M. D.
Blain, Samuel
Borce, J. W.
Borton, Samuel
Borton, Simeon
Borton, Joseph
Bird, Asher
Buehrer, John
Buehrer, Martin
Burkholder, Dan
Bayes, J.
Bayes, S. P.
Clark, Edgar
Clark, Israel
Cuff, Thomas
Clark, Leander
Cass, Leonard
Cass, Calvin
Clark, Amziah
Carter, Lorenzo
Cobb, Ernest
Crout, Elihu
Crout, G. W.
Call, Michael
Call, W. J.
Conklin, Datos
Conklin, George
Cole, David P.
Cole, Thomas J.
Cole, Simon P.
Clough, E. R.
Clark, Perry
Carpenter, J. B.
Carter, N. B.
Carrel, Albanus
Carpenter, Wayne
Carpenter, George
Colman, Elisha
Cottrell, Jacob
Disbrow, David
Dean, J. S.
Dye, Joseph
Dennis, Michael
Dowell, Frank
Donahoe, Thomas
Duncan, Samuel
Duncan Peter
Duncan, Isaac
Duncan, George
Duncan, W. H.
Daniel, A. C.
Driskell, Alfred
Driskell, William
Egnew, James
Eaton, John
Emerson, Hiram
Emerson, Emmett
Elliott, Mariam
Eckley, Isaac
Eckley, Levi
Elsworth, S.
Fisher, Andrew
Fisher, John
Fletcher, William
Ford, George
Ford, James
Foreman, Dan
Fitzsimmons, J. C.
Futter, Henry
Funkhouser, John
Fullerton, Joseph
Gleason, Calvin
Gay, Hiram
Gay, Velors
Gleason, Warner
Green, Samuel
Guilford, George
Griesinger, David
Gleason, C.
Gardiner, Arthur
Gilmore, George
Gigax, Fred
Hewitt, George
Hepfinger, Jacob
Harnedn, P.
Hatt, Frank
Hockins, Jacob
Hanley, John
Hatfield, Gilson
Hallett, Ephraim
Hinkle, Richard
Hoover, Calvin
Henrick, Jeremiah
Hibbard, C. A.
Hibbard, Francis
Handy, C. F.
Hoffman, J. P.
Hughes, Joseph
Hampson, Henry
Harriman, Henry
Jones, Joseph A.
Justice, Nathan
Jay, Moses
Justice, Thomas J.
Justice, Wesley, N.
Johnson, Alexander
Jordan, Sam
Jordan, Stephen
Judson, Sam
Jewell, Simeon
Jones, I. N.
Jones, Sherman
Jones, Amos
Kreiger, Andrew
Kreiger, Peter
Kreiger, A.
Kendeigh, Wm.
Kendeigh, Daniel
Knowels, Oscar
Knapp, V. A.
Leybarker, Gilbert
La Salle, Milton
La Salle, George
Livingston, James

Lott, David
Lewis, Crummel
Mansfield, Horace
Masters, Nelson
Martin, John
Miller, Addison
Miller, John
Miller, Isaac
Masters, Nelson R.
Moebus, John
Markley, Martin
Manan. Hiram
Marks, Alonzo
McConkey, L.
Metz, Adam
Miller, Joseph P.
Marshall, R. G.
Nearing, Napoleon
Nevitt, William
Onweller, Sam
Onweller, David
Olds, Pen
Pulver, James H.
Poorman, Marion
Pike, Eber
Penew, L. T.
Palmer, Harvey
Parent, N.
Parent, Wash.
Parent, William
Patterson, Harrison
Patterson, John
Potes, David
Potes, George
Potes, William
Rang, Anton
Roos, Richard
Raker, George
Robinson, Edward
Robinson, Harrison
Robinson, Wallace
Robinson, Lyman
Rufer, Ben
Reichert, Fred
Robinson, M. B.
Robinson, James
Roos, William
Robinson, Joseph
Robak, Joseph
Robinson, Welcome
Stevens, Royal
Shaffer, George
Shaffer, William
Shaffer, Samuel
Sindle, William
Sindle, Leonard
Snell, Hezekiah
Smaley, William
Shall, William
Stetin, Adam
Sebring, Aaron
Shaw, Milton
Shaw, Mervin
Smith, Vinson
Sheffield, J. W.
Spiess, Henry
Shaffer, Martin
Shafer, Charley
Snyder, Joseph
Scott, R. H.
Sheffield, John
Stevens, Chas. L.
Sylvester, Willis
Spencer, W. U.
Shadle, H. A.
Shaw, Virgil
Sellinger, John
Stryker, William
Spring, S. J.
Spring, Nial
Stoltz, William
Smith, Martin
Stowe, B. F.
Sheppard, J. K.
Struble, J. B.
Stryker, James
Taylor, Jesse
Taylor, Orrin
Trowbridge, Sylvester
Thompson, Isaac J.
Thornton, Chas.
Thornton, William
Terry, Stephen
Terry, Seymour
Thompson, Frank
Van Fleet, Wm.
Vine, John
Winzler, John
Weber, John
Willey, David
Wilcox, Guy
Winslow, Seth
Welch, James
White, F. M.
Whitten, Daniel
Whitten, W.
Woodford. M. E.
Worden, Jonathan
Welsh, Elias
Welsh, Harrison
Young, John
Zelner, John
Zelner, Benjamin.

Fulton county was very well represented in the

THIRTY-EIGHTH REGIMENT, OHIO VOLUNTEER INFANTRY

which was organized at Camp Latty, Defiance, during the summer and autumn of 1861. Companies I and K were, it is understood, recruited wholly from Fulton county, and other companies had some men of Fulton county. In addition, many recruits for the Thirty-Eighth were secured in Fulton county during the years of war. On September 28, 1861, the regiment was transferred to Camp Dennison, taking cars from there in Cincinnati, thence to Nicholsville, Kentucky, where it camped on October 2, 1861. About the middle of October, the regiment made a forced march of sixty miles to relieve the garrison at Wild Cat, which was successfully effected. The regiment had to endure some very severe winter campaigning in 1861-62, and by the end of January, 1862, not much more than one-third of

its original strength were fit for duty, and the mortality was heavy. In March, 1862, the regiment was transferred to Nashville, Tennessee, and as a unit of the Army of the Ohio participated in the siege of Corinth. In September, 1862, began the retrograde movement which terminated in the battle at Perrysville, October 8, 1862. Its next important engagement was that at Stone River, in December, after which it went into winter quarters March 13, 1863, when it marched to Triune, Georgia, and in June, with the Army of the Cumberland took active part in the Tullahoma campaign. On August 17th the march to Chattanooga began. The regiment was eventually detailed to guard the supply train of the army, and consequently was not present at the battle of Chickamauga. It was at Mission Ridge however. Soon afterwards, its term having expired, it re-enlisted, and returned home on veteran furlough. It was refitted while at home, and later joined Sherman's forces, participating in much of the Georgia campaign, so famous. After reaching the sea, the regiment marched with Sherman through the Carolinas to Goldsboro, North Carolina, and after the surrender of Johnson, went to Richmond, Virginia, and eventually to Washington, where it took part in the Grand Review. On July 12, 1865 it was mustered out of service, a service of one month short of four years. Moses R. Brailey was captain of Company I, and was promoted to major, on January 28, 1862; other Fulton county men among the commissioned officers were: Elisha Fewlass, first lieutenant; Edward D. A. Williams, captain; John S. Templeton, first lieutenant; Joseph B. Coons, first lieutenant; Thomas W. Wright, second lieutenant; and James McQuillen, second lieutenant. Company K was commanded by Reason A. Franks, for three years, when Charles H. Gorsuch took command. Charles L. Allen was promoted to first lieutenant and quartermaster on March 21, 1862, and eventually became adjutant. Among the staff officers of the Thirty-Eighth Regiment was Epaphras L. Barber, who was commissioned in the grade of major on June 10, 1861, but resigned on January 12, 1862. Mr. Shadle's list of the Fulton county men of the Thirty-Eighth Regiment is as follows:

Adams, Merritt
Adams, John
Adamson, Thomas
Andrews, Leonard
Abbott, Fred W.
Allen, C. L.
Allen, Dan
Allen, Silas
Aton, Lewis G.
Aton, Levi D.
Aton, David M.
Bryant, George E.
Baker, Robert
Betts, James
Butler, Marshall
Baker, Nicholas
Babcock, Robert
Berkey, Horatio
Bachman, John B.
Brailey, M. R.
Betts, R. H.
Brink, J. L.
Buzzle, G. F.
Brooker, Hiram
Coss, Wm. G.
Coss, Martin
Canfield, Pomeroy
Cantleberry, Emanuel
Cameron, Orrin
Cone, Henry
Cottrell, Henry
Cottrell, Eugene
Cornell, John W.
Childs, John M.
Cottrell, G. T.
Crane, Jefferson
Dayton, Travis
Dickerson, Henry
Donaldson, H. D.
Dennis, Wm.
Dennius, G. W.
Douglas, John
Dull, Jeremiah
Douglas, Leroy
Dennius, Franklin
Daily, John
Daily, William
Daily, Hamilton
Dickson, Ezra
Dunbar, G. A. B.
Dunbar, William W.
Elliott, James
Evans, John
Eddy, John

Emerick, J. D.
Elliott, James A.
Fewlass, Elisha
Fairchilds, David
Fashbaugh, John Q.
Fashbaugh, Lewis
Frederick, John
Fashbaugh, John R.
Fashbaugh, John
Frysinger, Levi
Ford, A. B.
Ford, A. K.
Fellows, H. N.
Faulkner, Albert
Faulkner, Leonard
Franks, Reason
Geer, David
Gunsaullus, George
Gunsaullus, Daniel
Gunsaullus Daniel E.
Galbraith, Chas.
Geer, Isaac
Gorsuch, C. H.
Griffin, Wm. H.
Griffin, Carver, S.
Green, William
Geitsey, Samuel
Gray, George
Gray, James
Geer, Lucius
Geer, Isiah
Hannah, Julius
Hoodless, Geo.
Hilbarn, Stephen P.
Hall, Alfred M.
Hoodless, Thomas
Hogle, Joel
Hicker, Daniel
Heckman, John
Hendricks, Jackson
Howden, Thomas
Hale, Justice H.
Jay, Brice
Jones, Judson
Kirkman, Robert
Kaine, John
Kaine, Sr., John
Kennedy, John W.
Kennedy, Willis
Kessler, Peter
Keith, Caleb H.
Kinney, William
King, J. F.
Kuney, Lawson
Kypers, Cyrus
Lunger, John
Looker, James K.
Looker, David
Losure, Mariette
McQuillin, James
McQuillin, Elmer
McQuillin, Ira
McQuillin, Thomas
Miller, Edmund
Miller, Daniel T.
Mikesell, C. J.
Mikesell, Stillman
Mikesell, Wm.
Micksell, Nat.
McKibben, Wm.
McLayman, W. H.
Merrion, James
Metz, William
Metz, Thomas
Mattern, B. F.
Mattern, Jerome
Mattern, Jacob
Mathias, F. D.
Mead, Hiram
Marsh, Richard
Marsh, Luther G.
Mattoon, Silas
McCutchinson, Saml
McCutchinson, Wm.
McMaster, Leonard
Moses, James
Moses, Frank
Moore, Edson
Murray, Atwell
Nothnaugle, B. F.
Nobbs, Robert
Osterhout, J. W.
Pike, Hiram
Pomeroy, H. B.
Palmer, David
Penny, David
Riley, John B.
Rice, H. M.
Rock, George
Rice, Joseph G.
Reighard, William
Reighard, Hugh
Sellers, Wm.
Scribner, Luke
Skeels, William
Skeels, Lyman
Schlappi, Wm.
Sohn, Jacob
Savage, Nelson
Salisbury, Mathias
Schlappi, Ezra
Struble, Elmer
Struble, George
Showers, Lewis
Snow, S. D.
Smith, S.
Snow, Henry
Snyder, Jacob
Shorter, D. G.
Schafer, Rueben
Smith, Charles
Smith, Alexander
Swank, Peter
Savage, Ferris F.
Tremain, Daniel M.
Trowbridge, Solomon
Trowbridge, Corn.
Trowbridge, M. H.
Templeton, John S.
Thomas, Jacob
Tayer, John W.
Tayer, William H.
Vaughan, Cal.
Van Arnsdalen, G.
Van Fleet, Garret
Viers, James
Viers, Nehamiah
Van Ness, William
Van Ness, Wallace
Van Ness, Charles
Van Ness, Albert
Winslow, Thomas
Warner, William
Wilcox, Thomas
Williams, Edward
Williams, W. W.
Wright, Thomas
Walters, Jacob
Westfall, William
Wise, M. L.
Woodard, Jerry
Weaver, Andrew
Williams, Roderick
Willey, E.
Weeks, V. W.
Youngs, Joel
Zimmerman, Jacob

Under the President's first call for seventy-five thousand men for three months of service, in 1861, the

FOURTEENTH REGIMENT, OHIO VOLUNTEER INFANTRY

was organized, and Company H was mainly composed of Fulton County men. Epaphras L. Barber, of Wauseon, was the first to sign the enlistment roll, and others followed so quickly that four days later, on April 23, 1861, the company of full strength left for Toledo. E. L. Barber was elected captain; Thomas M. Ward, first lieutenant; and Reason A. Franks, second lieutenant. Upon arrival at Toledo, the Fulton County company was attached to the Fourteenth Infantry, becoming Company H of that regiment. The Fourteenth arrived at Cleveland on April 25th, and two days later was mustered into the Union service, and went into Camp Taylor, near Cleveland, for training. Many of the men of Company H eventually became veterans, and are named in the rosters of other regiments, in which they gave long and valiant service to the Union. On May 22nd, the Fourteenth left for Columbus, to be outfitted, and on the following day proceeded to Marietta, at which place other troops had rendezvoused. The regiment did much useful work of pioneer and construction character, and in early June met the Rebel forces at Philippi, Virginia, which the rebels abandoned. The regiment was in constant touch with the enemy during June, and in early July marched to Bealington, on Laurel Hill, where the rebels, under General Garnett, were in considerable force. The place was abandoned by the Confederate forces, and the following Union forces met stubborn resistance at Carrick's Ford. Two hundred and fifty prisoners were taken by the Union army in that engagement. The Fourteenth Regiment returned to Laurel Hill, but shortly afterwards returned to Toledo for disbandment, the term of enlistment having expired. Many of the men afterwards joined other regiments for three years of service; some were somewhat elderly, or had family ties which militated against their wish to give further service. Of the men who saw service with the Fourteenth Regiment, the following are the names of the men accredited to that unit in the list taken as the basis, as before explained:

Butler, Lewis H.
Buehrer, George
Bayes, I.
Barber, E. L.
Barnes, W. C.
Beckham, S.
Carter, Wm. M.
Clark, Aden
Childs, Thomas
Colt, W.
Cheadle, Nathan
Dowell, John
Ellsworth, W.
Firestone, Emanuel
Fashbaugh, Wm.
Garberson, John
Geiser, William
Gallup, J. R.
Hollis, George H.
Hodges, J.
Hodges, J. P.
Hodges, Sam
Hollis, William
Harger, E.
Jones, Wm. Syl.
Jones, John W.
Kauble, J. W.
Losure, William
Lepley, J. B.
Lyon, L.
Lewis, Wesley
Leggett, W. B.
Lingle, Paul
Lingle, M. Silas
Mixter, J. W.
McMannis, W. R.
Miller, Hiram
Miller, Alexander
Miller, John
Miller, David
McClatchey, H.
Pontious, Wesley
Price, L. P.
Quiggle, Osro
Quiggle, Horatio
Rogers, William
Smith, Martin
Sams, W. F.
Smith, H. T.
Summers, E. T.
Shadle, Richard

Strenahan, A. B.	Todd, Uriah	Ward, Thomas
Struble, W. S.	Woodward, C. P.	Wise, John
Stout, James	Wellman, Samuel	Wilson, Lewis E.
Tabor, Leander	Waldron, W.	Yeager, Henry

Many Fulton County men saw service with the

FORTY-FOURTH ILLINOIS INFANTRY

as it was eventually called, much to the disappointment of the men from the Fulton County contingent, who had enlisted on the understanding that the regiment would take the name of the North-Western Sharpshooters, it having been raised in many states, including Illinois, Ohio, and Indiana. The governor of Illinois had the commissioning of officers for that regiment, and consequently was able to exert political influence to give it an Illinois name. It caused much dissatisfaction to the men of Company D, which was composed almost entirely of Fulton County men. And the general dissatisfaction felt by men of other states than Illinois had some effect upon the early efficiency of the force, which however during the last two years of the war did good service. Company D., when organized, was commanded by Captain E. L. Hayes, with Jacob Hoffmire, first, and Jacob Fashbaugh, second lieutenant. Men of the company whose homes were in Fulton County, and are not named in other rosters, were:

Atkinson, Stephen	Krontz, S.	Stetter, Martin
Broadbeck, Phil	Kinney, Henry	Stevens, Sylvanus M.
Broadbeck, Gust	Kinney, Josiah	Stevens, Wm.
Biddle, D. T.	Kyles, Joseph	Stevens, Daniel
Clark, James	Lott, Perry	Skiler, Jas. S.
Clark, D. A.	Lott, Warren	Sullivan, J.
Dowell, John	Lott, Josiah	Shepherd, Amos
Ely, Asher B.	Livermore, D. O.	Struble, Dallas
Fisher, Solomon	Miller, Conrad	Struble, Dan
Fisher, Benton	Pervis, Robert	Theobold, Lewis
Fisher, Daniel	Phillipar, Andrew	Theobold, Valentine
Fink, Judson	Phillipar, Aug.	Thomas, Warren
Fink William	Richardson, B. R.	Thomas, Henry
Hall, John	Rittenhouse,	Waggoner, Joseph
Hollister, H.	Robinson, Henry	Wells, Hiram
Hoffmire, Jacob	Robinson, Alex	Whitehead, Daniel
Hayes, Cyrus	Shafer, Gottlieb	Whitehorn, Myron

For a service of one hundred days, the

ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTIETH REGIMENT, OHIO VOLUNTEER INFANTRY

was organized in early May of 1864, being raised mainly in Lucas and Fulton counties of Ohio. Fulton County reported with three full companies, but as eleven companies had already reported, one from Fulton County was distributed among the other companies of the regiment, which reported to Gen. C. W. Hill, at Sandusky, and after muster-in, was ordered to Johnson's Island, in Sandusky Bay, to guard rebel prisoners. On June 4, 1864, the regiment was ordered to Washington, D. C.,

and refitted with standard equipment at Belair. From Washington it proceeded to Bermuda Hundred, and was ordered by General Butler to Point of Rocks, on the Appomattox, where a Confederate attack was threatened. Later, the regiment returned to Bermuda Hundred, and was employed in digging rifle-pits, and in picketing. On June 22, 1864, the brigade had a sharp skirmish with the enemy. On August 11th, the One Hundred and Thirtieth passed down the James River on the steamer "Keyport." At Washington the regiment entrained for Toledo, where eventually it was mustered out. It is on record that 251 men enlisted in the One Hundred and Thirtieth Regiment from Fulton County, but only 110 names appear under this regimental caption in the list compiled for the purposes of the Fulton County Soldiers' and Sailors' Memorial and Monumental Association. The names are:

Beatty, Whitfield
Babcock, Clark
Bartlett, Russell
Baler, James
Baler, Martin
Bacon, Ezekiel
Barden, B. L.
Barden, Lewis
Borton, Elwood
Bayes, B. W.
Bayes, F. P.
Bayes, Elliott
Critzer, William
Champion, W. J.
Carpentier, Henry
Carrol, Charles
Carrol, L. J.
Carmon, C. E.
Driskoll, W. W.
Drew, William
Drew, A. N.
Dull, George A.
Dennis, Alpheus
Davoll, William
Deyo, Albert
Eldridge, Milan
Faylor, Joseph
Fashbaugh, Isiah T.
Fashbaugh, Jacob B.
Fashbaugh, Taylor
Fashbaugh, Eli
Fenner, Dennis
Fenner, E. M.
Ferguson, T. J.
First, O.
Grandy, John A.
Gates, Hiram
Gooden, Oliver
Gillis, John
Gray, Edward
Hogel, Isaac
Hay, Samuel
Harriman, J.
Hemp, Eli
Hoxie, Thomas J.
Hinkle, C. G.
Hinkle, Melvin
Hinde, Aaron
Jeffers, Lyman
Kennedy, Albert
Kennedy, Elias
Kennedy, Charles
Koester, Jacob
King, J.
Lee, R. S.
Losure, Elmer
Miley, W. C.
Miley, H.
Miley, Wm. B.
McClarren, R.
Merrill, John
Merrill, Russell
Mason, L. Q.
Munn, Alison
McCann, W.
Mercer, Abram
March, Henry
Mead, Levi
Mead, Chauncey
McIntyre, Geo.
Noble, Augustus
Nobbs, Daniel
Onweller, Wm.
Parish, A. W.
Pinkstock, Hy.
Plettner, John
Prentiss, Abram C.
Potes, James
Pierce, Hiram
Quiggle, Romance C.
Rarick, George
Robasser, Melchoir
Richards, Franklin
Reckner, John
Royce, G. L.
Robinson, T. R.
Robinson, S.
Richardson, M. D.
Robinson, M. E.
Roos, Edward
Spencer, S. L.
Stilwell, A. N.
Smith, Lot
Smith, W. S.
Snyder, William
Standish, George
Swan, D.
Turney, A.
Trask, Erastus
Tripp, B. R.
Worth, Arthur
Wood, J. B.
Warren, Joseph
Watkins, Wells
Washburn, Wm.
Wilcox, James
White, James S.
Wilson, William
Winzler, John
Yamons, John L.

Fulton County was well represented in the

One Hundredth Regiment, Ohio Volunteer Infantry

which was organized at Camp Toledo, near Toledo, in 1862, and was mustered into the United States service on September 1, 1862. Company H was formed in Fulton County, and men of the county were in other companies also. The regiment after calling at Cincinnati, camped at Covington, Kentucky, on September 9th, leaving that place on October 8th for Lexington, Kentucky, thence to Danville, at which place it arrived on December 26th.

It was in Kentucky for the greater part of the spring and summer of 1863, but in the latter part of August marched to join the Ninth Corps in Eastern Tennessee. Upon arrival at Knoxville, part of the regiment was detached for service in West Virginia, where, on September 4th, the entire detachment was captured by the enemy. The regiment participated in the defense of Knoxville, and saw strenuous service during the winter of 1863-64, in the spring of which year the regiment as part of the Twenty-Third Army Corps, marched from Knoxville, to join Sherman, then at Tunnel Hill, Georgia. It took part in the Atlanta campaign, and was present in almost every battle from Rocky Face Ridge to Atlanta. After the capture of Nashville, the regiment took part in the pursuit of Hood, and was engaged in the battles of Franklin and Nashville. After service with Sherman in North Carolina, the regiment eventually returned to Cleveland, and was mustered out of the service on July 1, 1865. The command of Company H., which was formed in Fulton County was given originally to L. Berry Smith. Subsequent captains were John H. Palmer, Emmet Losure, and Albert B. Smith. Other officers were not of Fulton County with the exception of John J. Hines. The following list is of Fulton County men who were in the One Hundredth Regiment, mainly in Company H.:

Agle, John
Abbott, Solomon
Beaver, Henry
Bradley, A. E.
Bowerman, Silas
Bunting, Frank
Barden, Allen
Baxter, J. W.
Bayes, Campbell
Bates, H. J.
Barnes, O. P.
Black, Benjamin
Curtis, Lavally R.
Collins, Carl
Crew, Benjamin
Collins, Jacob
Case, W. J.
Crew, Addison
Crew, Micahah
Copeland, Joseph
Childs, George
Cameron, Alex
Clark, D. W.
Donahue, David
Dumaresq, John
Dee, Orion
Doge, Davis
Ely, J. R.
Earl, Harper
Ely, Daniel
Elliott, Simson
Ewers, Gladney
Fausey, William
Foster, R. N.
Gorsuch, Mordecai
Grove, John
Grove, Wm.
Gish, S. A.
Harper, Earl H.
Hulet, Edward W.
Hayes, E. L.
Hodges, James
Hine, J. J.
Harrington, Hy
Hess, Thomas
Heckman, Frank
Holland, J. P.
Herrick, George
Jones, Charles
Jewell, John
Kessler, David
McManus, J. N.
McLaughlin, Todd
Metz, Isaac
Miley, Jesse
Miller, Geo. S.
McFarling, G. J.
Miller, Jasper P.
Mallory, Alva
Moor, Philip

Olds, Wilson
Palmer, John H.
Pearson, Alex
Page, Noble
Reece, Harvey
Rendall, H. E.
Raker, John
Stair, John
Shadle, Allen
Sellers, Elias
Sigsby, Warren
Sigsby, Newton
Smith, Isaac
Smith, Lawrence B.
Sangston, George
Smith, A. B
Sigsby, John
Stutesman, James
Tremain, J. T.
Taver, Oscar F.
Vrocman, Geo. W.
Woolace, Frank
Warren, Samuel
Weeks, Jonas
Walters, Sylvanus
Weis, William
Wilcox, H. G.
Young, Henry
Zigler, G. H.

Some patriots of the county enlisted in the

FORTY-SEVENTH REGIMENT, OHIO VOLUNTEER INFANTRY

which was composed mainly of men of the southwestern counties of Ohio. Most of the Fulton County men were in Company I. The Regiment was ordered to Clarksburg, W. Va., on August 27, 1861, to report thereat to General Rosecrans. It was later brigaded with the Ninth and Twenty-Eighth Ohio regiments, afterwards known as the "Bully Dutch Brigade." It saw fighting at Cornifex Ferry in 1861; at Little Sewell Mountain, at Lewisburg, in Northern Virginia, at White Sulphur Springs, in 1862; at Vicksburg, at Seminary Hill Fort, at Jackson, Miss., at Chickamauga, and at Greyville, in 1863; and in almost all the fighting from Chattanooga, Tenn., to Atlanta, Ga., in 1864, marching with Sherman through Georgia to the sea, and being in the advance in the charge on Fort McAlister, December 13, 1864. It was mustered out on August 24, 1865, after more than four years of service. The following Fulton County names are those mostly of veterans of that famous regiment:

Blain, James
Brockway, Mathew
Butts, William
Clendenin, L. H.
Clough, J. W.
Conklin, G. W.
Culver, George
Freidon, Henry
Hall, John
Hall, Samuel
Harwood, John
Havens, George
Hinkle, Martin
Hallett, Daniel
Johnson, David C.
Kiff, John
Osborn, Blanchard
Parker, Mark B.
Patterson, Syl.
Seward, A.
Sprague, Edgar A.
Stedman, Horace
Stedman, Clark
Sturdevant, C.
Sprague, Edward
Tiney, Alwood
Tredway, Martin V.
Turner, Manley
Whipple, Isaac

Twenty-four Fulton County men are shown as having belonged to the

ONE HUNDRED AND ELEVENTH REGIMENT, OHIO VOLUNTEERS

which was raised in Lucas, Wood, Fulton, Sandusky and Defiance counties, in August, 1862. It was assigned to General Buell's army, and saw service in that year in Kentucky. Six months of 1863 were passed in duties of garrisoning and guarding communications between Bowling Green, Kentucky, and Nashville, Tennessee. In July, the regiment chased Morgan through Kentucky into Ohio, having indirectly a part in the capture of that command of thirty-five hundred men. In August, the regiment was in Kentucky, preparing to march

into eastern Tennessee. It was at Louden, Tennessee, from September until November 14th, when it took part in the movement on New Market, to check the Confederate advance from Virginia. It checked General Longstreet's division at Louden Creek, until the arrival of Henshaw's Illinois Battery. Severe fighting took place at Campbell Station, in an endeavor to impede the progress of the enemy until the fortifications around Knoxville could be completed. There was much severe fighting in Tennessee during the winter of 1863, and in 1864 the One Hundred and Eleventh was one of those units which formed Sherman's Army in the march to the sea, through Georgia. In November of that year it was again in Tennessee, and assisted in checking General Hood's advance on Nashville. In the subsequent severe fighting before Nashville, the regiment had conspicuous part. It was subsequently engaged in the fighting which led to the capture of Fort Anderson. After the surrender of General Johnson, the regiment was sent to Salisbury, N. C., where it remained on garrison duty until ordered home for muster-out. It arrived at Cleveland, Ohio, July 5, 1865. The One Hundred and Eleventh Regiment is chiefly distinctive in Fulton County annals not because of a large contribution of men to its ranks, but because its principal officers were Fulton County men. The regiment went out in the fall of 1862 under the command of Major M. R. Brailey, and Isaac R. Sherwood was a lieutenant at the time. At the end of the war, both held the brevet rank of brigadier-general. On its rosters were the names of:

Butler, Aaron	Ford, Thomas	Krontz, E.
Barone, Henry	Harris, Israel	La Bounty, F.
Baer, Samuel	Hallett, James	Ottgen, John C.
Baer, Andrew	Hoffman, J. F.	Scott, William
Duke, Addison	Hoffman, A. B.	Stoner, Eli
Dimke, Gust.	Irwin, Thos.	Tredway, Gus
Fashbaugh, Sml.	Irwin, Wm. J.	Van Nortwick, A. S.
Ford, Samuel	Kinsey, Samuel	Young, Adam

A regiment recruited for a service of one year was the

ONE HUNDRED AND EIGHTY-SECOND REGIMENT, OHIO VOLUNTEER INFANTRY

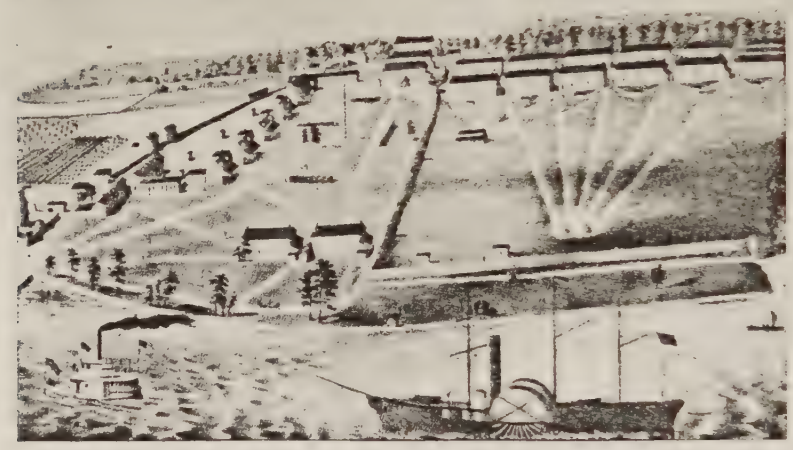
in the ranks of which were many Fulton County men. It was fitted out at Camp Chase, near Columbus, Ohio, and mustered into federal service on October 28, 1864. Three days later the regiment proceeded to Nashville, Tennessee, where it joined the forces under General Thomas. The regiment therefore had part in the defence of Nashville. It was mustered out of service at Camp Chase, Ohio, on July 13, 1865. In its ranks were:

Ayers, John E.	Laver, John S.	Newcomer, G. D.
Aldrich, Albert	Linfoot, Frank	Porter, Lucius
Beebe, B.	Leggett, Frank	Pike, L. J.
Belknap, F.	Leggett, Fred	Sargent, Alfred
Brooker, Wm. H.	McClure, Moses	Taylor, George
Dennius, Peter	McQuillen, John W.	Upham, Warren
Ely, Francisco	Markley, Phil	William, G. H.
Hanley, James	Martin, Charles	Whitehead, Jacob
Kanaur, Adam	Morphelius, C.	

A purely northern Ohio organization, in which were many Fulton County men, was the

THIRD OHIO VOLUNTEER CAVALRY

which was formed at Monroeville, Ohio, in August and September of 1861. In February, 1862, it was in Kentucky; in March it was in Tennessee, and took part in very active campaigning there during that year. Next, the Third Ohio Cavalry was in Alabama, guarding the Memphis and Charleston Railroad. The regiment eventually participated in Sherman's campaign in Georgia, and after the capture of Atlanta, the regiment followed Hood as far as Columbia, Tennessee. It took part in the battle before Nashville, and after Hood's defeat followed his retreat across the Tennessee River into Alabama. It was engaged in the Wilson raid through Alabama and Georgia, and in the battles of



U. S. PRISON QUARTERS, ON JOHNSON'S ISLAND, NEAR SANDUSKY, O., WHERE MANY FULTON COUNTY MEN DID GUARD DUTY DURING CIVIL WAR, PREVENTING SUCCESS OF PLOT TO RELEASE CONFEDERATE PRISONERS.

Selma and Montgomery, Alabama, and Macon and Griffin, Georgia. It served altogether for nearly four years, and engaged in more raids and fights than any other Ohio cavalry regiment, actually capturing more than five thousand Confederate soldiers. It was mustered out of the Federal service on August 14, 1865. Fulton County men in the Third Ohio Cavalry were:

Archer, Martin
Bovers, Jacob
Berry, Joseph E.
Bishop Fletcher
Biddle, Jas. M.
Buzzle, O.
Carter, Joseph
Cole, Emanuel
Dumaresq, Alfred P.
Gardner, Wm.
Green, James
Gay, Alvertus
Geer, Milo
Howard, Valors
Haywood, Edward
Hatfield, C. L.
Hay, Joshua
Hine, J. N.
Hart, D. E.
Jones, Geo. W.
Kinney, G.
Leggett, E.
La Bounty, Frank
Moyer, Frank
Marks, David
Moyer, Sidney
Nutt, John
Powers, Henry
Rodgers, William
Sheffield, Fred B.
Stutesman, Thomas
Stout, Alfred
Whitehead, William

There were Fulton County men in many other regiments and while no attempt will be made to further state herein regimental records, an endeavor will be made to name the men, and as far as possible state the regiment in which they served. There were fourteen men in the

TWENTY-FIFTH REGIMENT, OHIO VOLUNTEER INFANTRY:

Angel, D. W.	Foor, Abraham	Porter, Enoch
Andrews, Chas.	Foor, Samuel	Reckner, I.
Batdorf, Q.	Mattison, Alex	Swift, Geo.
Batdorf, John	Osborn, Gil	Whiteman, Levi
Fouty, Park	Osborn, George	

There were eleven Fulton County men in the

THIRTY-SEVENTH REGIMENT, OHIO VOLUNTEER INFANTRY:

Curry, Charley	Keller, John	Thomas, John
Ditto, Martin	Nohl, Jacob	Theobold, Jacob
Diehlman, George	Nohl, Alexander	Theobold, Henry
Gilbert, Jacob	Phillipar, Fredk.	

and there were fifteen men of the county in the

ONE HUNDRED AND TWENTY-EIGHTH REGIMENT, OHIO VOLUNTEER INFANTRY:

Dubois, Lemuel	Keller, Geo. A.	Miley, Thomas
Fuller, Robert	Kimerer, Perry	Murray, Samuel
Ford, M. O.	Levi, Ely	Overmeyer, W. D.
Gamber, Lorenzo	Murray, James W.	Saltzgaber, Henry
Hogle, Frank	Murray, John T.	Wright, William

and of mounted men, there were twenty-three with the

TENTH OHIO VOLUNTEER CAVALRY:

Atkinson, John	Lane, B.	Stegall, Wallace
Berry, John	Miller, John	Taylor, Luther H.
Barrett, Russell	McClarren, R. J.	Verity, James L.
Childs, G. W.	Meeker, Wm.	Viers, Edwin
Chatfield, James	Peck, John D.	Van Fleet, O. B.
Funk, F.	Shadle, Ferdinand	Wells, A.
Kenney, John	Stratton, David	Wicks, R. L.
Lott, John D.	Stegall, John	

Smaller detachments were with various regiments as follows:

SIXTIETH OHIO VOLUNTEER INFANTRY

Eight men: Aumend, Thomas; Cooney, Aaron; Downer, Lorenzo; Downer, Theodore W.; Soles, Sylvester; Specht, Noah; Smith, Richard; Smith, David.

THIRTEENTH OHIO VOLUNTEER INFANTRY

Six men: Cook, William; Mikesell, U. S.; Pierson, William; Raymond, J. R.; Wiesel, Dan; Washburn, Chas. H.

Tenth Ohio Volunteer Infantry

Nine men: Biddle, A.; Foster, Pitt; French, Lewis; Green, C. B.; Gorsuch, Reason; Gorsuch, A. J.; Rufer, W.; Stegall, W.; Weeks, R.

Eighty-Seventh Ohio Volunteer Infantry

Seven men: Brigham, W. S.; Blizzard, R. C.; Fluhart, J. H.; Hyde, Ed.; Hyde, Robert; Williams, W. C.; Williams, Allen.

One Hundred and Eighty-Ninth Ohio Volunteer Infantry

Eight men: Dowell, F.; Eckhart, S. A.; Heckman, Geo.; Miller, B. C.; Scott, Leonard; Wise, J. L.; Zimmerman, Josiah; and Zimmerman, Benj.

One Hundred and Ninety-Fifth Ohio Volunteer Infantry

Six men: Clingaman, Dan; Clingaman, A. J.; Coleman, Henry; Piper, J. B.; Severance, Benjamin; and Snow, Isaac.

Eighty-Fifth Ohio Volunteer Infantry

Five men: Brown, T. H.; Culbertson, Persing Ulysses; Taft, H.; and Zimmerman, M.

Third Ohio Volunteer Infantry

Six men: Allman, Jacob; Carter, William; Donahoe, William; Lawrence, John; Lambert, R.; and Vass, Frank D.

Sixth Cavalry

Five men: Denson, F. A.; Disbrow, C.; McConkey, S.; McConkey, Jerry; and Palmer, M. T.

With the Fourth Michigan Regiment were three Fulton County men, Peter Landis, M. Richardson, and John Seibold; with the Eleventh Michigan Regiment were three men, Alex Stout, Robert Sutton, and Harvey Sutton; and with the Twenty-First Ohio Volunteer Infantry were three men, George Cornell, Daniel Dunham, and Jesse Tracy.

Then there is a miscellaneous list, which includes the names of Fulton County men who served in the United States Navy, as well as of some who served in the Federal Army:

Abbott, Henry; U. S. S. Ark.
Bayes, Lorenzo, D., 38th Iowa
Barnes, A. A., 9th Cav.
Brigham, J. H., 69th Ohio
Burnham, Edward, Ind.
Buxton, Leander, 136th Ohio
Clark, A. B., 2nd Ind.
Carpenter, Chas., scout.
Chaffer, Theron De G., Bat. M.
Collings, Harvey, 1st Mich.
Clark, D. W., Miss. Flotilla
Carr, Michael
Culbertson, Enoch, 69th Ohio.
Eager, H. J., U. S. Civ. Engr.
Foster, William, 4th Ind.
Farwell, James, 184th Ohio.
Guilford, Robert, 125th Ohio
Gee, William, 49th Ohio.
Hilton, Amos, 8th Mich.
Hewth, George, 39th Ill.
Hallet, John, 9th Mich.
Hill, W. E., 6th Ohio.
Hatton, Frank, 84th Ohio
King, James C., 169th Ohio.
Kinney, John, 11th Ohio.
Kuney, Lee, 110th Ohio.
Lee, Wesley, W., 69th Ohio
Miller, D. C., 65th Ohio.

Lenhart, Hiram, 30th Ohio
Northwangle, Geo., 5th O. Cav.
Palmer, Chris, 185th Ohio.
Phillips, George, 123rd Ohio.
Pike, Oliver, 11th Ohio.
Porter, B. F., 15th Ohio.
Rogers, George, 3rd N. Y. Cav.
Rollins, S. W., 15th O. Bat.
Ring, Frank, 57th Ohio.
Ruckman, John, 57th Ohio.
Sams, Joshua, 72nd Ohio.
Sams, Abram, 72nd Ohio.
Scott, William, 123rd Ohio.
Socies, L. V., 197th Ohio.
Shinaberger, Jacob, 65th Ohio.
Stegall, J., 102nd Ill.
Shute Wm. H., 9th O. Cav.
Skeels, Bert, 9th O. Cav.
Spencer, George, 27th Ohio.
Thomas, George, 184th Ohio.
Thompson, J. J., U. S. Navy.
Thompson, Eli, 173rd Pa. Vol.
Walters, Octavius, Spec. Com.
Waltz, E. L., 142nd Ohio.
Walters, Samuel, 20th Ind.
Weeks, B. L., 16th Ill. Cav.
Wells, Jud., 120th Ohio.
Williams, E. W., 59th Ind.
Zimmerman, Joseph, 185th Ohio.

and lastly comes the list of the men who it is known served during the war, but in what regiment is not known to present compiler. Those of

REGIMENT UNKNOWN:

Baker, Alonzo
Barnes, Wash.
Batdorf, Jeremiah
Borton, Silas
Carter, Andrew
Church, Philander
Campbell, George
Canfield, Henry T.
Close, Lemuel
Coniga, Fred
Darling, Fayette
Dennis, Isaac
Ely, Levi
Ely, Joe
Fullerton, Wm.
Farley, Abe G.
Farley, Joe
Grosscross, A.
Grime, Ferdinand
Harrison, James
Hindee, William
Ives, C. Jerome
Jewell, Enos
Kutzli, Bernath
Meeker, Lewis
Meeker, Ben.
Mudge, Elijah
Meister, Jacob
Miller, Herman
Northerin, John
Null, William
Pontious, John
Patent, Joseph
Pike, V.
Pike, Justin
Price, William
Phillips, Fred
Rendols, Hass
Randall, Ezra
Raker, Jacob
Raker, Robert
Raker, Richard
Rine, Charley
Rice, Seymore
Rhodes, Daniel
Smalley, Tracey F.
Siegel, John
Stonestreet, Everett
Strong, J. L.
Strong, T. E.
Struble, Alfred
Sellinger, Benjamin
Tabor, Loren
Thomas, Joseph
Whitehead, Randolph
Welch, Dan
Whaley, Franklin
Warren, Nathaniel
Warren, William
Warner, Irvin
Vanderlin, Dan
Van Nortwick, John

It may be considered that such a contribution out of a population of only about 14,043 (1860 census) would represent practically the whole of the adult male strength. As a matter of fact, Fulton County did give to the nation, for service in the Union military or naval forces, practically the whole of its able-bodied young and middle-aged manpower, a glorious record; and it may be easily realized that home conditions during the years of war were arduous and trying. In addition to heart-pangs for loved ones, who passed their days in almost constant danger, there was the strain of "carrying-on" the home until the return of the men of the family. From many homes went two, three, four, or five strong-minded and whole-hearted patriots, some never to return;

and in their absence the women-folk, the young and the feeble, had to live through the period as best they could. There was of course not much development work done during those years; only necessary building was attempted. And the principal citizens sought to direct the attention of the more fortunately circumstanced to matters of relief of those in need of relief and sympathetic help. There was much privation, but the good-hearted people gathered around those in need, and so the trying winters passed.

Joel Brigham, one of the commissioners of the county in 1861, had very active part in the relief work, and in the duties entrusted to county officials by the state over the eventful period. Governor Tod appointed him a member of the military commitee of the ninth district, which corresponds approximately to the present Congressional district. Mr. Brigham was also treasurer of the Fulton County Military Relief Committee, and among the many inventories of articles sent to the men in the field by that committee are some interesting entries. Among the records are the following entries, in 1861: Capt. M. R. Brailey, Capt. R. A. Franks, and their comrades of the 38th Ohio Volunteer Infantry, 200 pairs socks, 57 undershirts, 350 pounds dried fruit, etc.; Capt. E. L. Hayes, 175 pounds dried fruit, 225 pairs socks, 37 quilts, blankets, etc. Each township had its military committee, and an invoice of articles bought and sent November 11, 1861, totals to $900.75. A letter from Richard Mott, of Toledo, to Mr. Joel Brigham, dated October 16, 1861, asks him to hold up Fulton County donations until further orders, and closes with a tribute to Mr. Brigham for his services, stating: "The account of your trip to the 38th Regiment in Kentucky....is truly interesting. The handsome return of money from the men in the field brought home by you is encouraging, and it is highly creditable to the character and thrift of our volunteers." Mr. Brigham on that trip was entrusted by the soldiers with $5,000, which they wished their families at home to have. The women of Fulton County were particularly active; they formed a Soldiers Aid Society, in Wauseon, in October, 1861. The members met weekly, unless there was an urgent call, in which case they would meet oftener. They labored throughout the county, and the work done embraced the preparation of lint and bandages, the making of shirts and drawers, sheets, pillows, pads for the wounded, and much knitting of socks, mittens; also the drying of fruit and the making of pickles, jellies, and such-like eatables. Many boxes, containing some of the most of the articles above-mentioned were sent into the field, the ladies in one instance meeting specially, and at short notice, to prepare a box, which Col. E. L. Hayes would be able to distribute to Union soldiers at Libby prison. In this connection one of the prisoners later wrote a Fulton County friend:

"The angels of mercy generally hover over the needy, oppressed, and unfortunate. They came near us, through the Soldiers Ladies Aid Society, of Wauseon, who had made up a small box of underclothing, and sent it to the prisoners from Wauseon at Libby Prison, through Major Hayes. It was the only parcel sent to Union prisoners the ever reached its destination. Major Hayes was permitted, under a guard, to deliver it to us."

During 1862, and 1863 there were many subscription lists opened, and in May, of 1863, a very lengthy list of subscriptions to the Bounty

Fund was published in the Northwestern Republican. And the work of caring for the soldiers in the field, and of the needy families at home, continued until the end.

On December 5, 1864, the Fulton County Relief Committee, Naaman Merrill, Octavius Waters, Joel Brigham, Oliver B. Verity, and D. W. H. Howard issued an appeal "to the Benevolent and Patriotic Citizens of Fulton County." to make a special effort, stating that:

"The cold chilling winds of winter are again upon us; our brave soldiers are in the field defending our hearthstones, and all that is dear; now is the time to show our love of country by deeds, not by words. The families of our soldiers need supplies for winter—everything you have to spare, such as wood, meat, potatoes, turnips, cabbage, flour, meal, clothing, fruit, money, etc., will be thankfully received.....Remember our brave sons. Many are in their graves, others in hospitals, others crippled and wounded, and at home their families are all well worthy of your contributions and acceptance, not as charity but as your bounden duty....Now is the hour to redeem our oft tendered pledge, that the families of our soldiers should be provided for.....

"The following named persons have been appointed as committees in the several townships to attend to said business, and make necessary arrangements, to wit: Amboy, David Duncan, ch'm, S. Johnson, S. Haughton, N. Welch, W. D. McCann, John Clendening; Royalton, H. C. Jordan, S. Carpenter, G. B. Brown, B. F. Philips; Chesterfield, A. C. Hough, G. Bates, G. W. Thorp, D. C. Gillis, J. P. Ross, J. W. Bates; Gorham, Chas. Allen, ch'm, J. Gambier, H. A. Canfield, J. P. Ritter, W. E. Gay, Geo. Gambier, Lucius Ford; Franklin, J. Ely, ch'm, E. Masters, J. McLaughlin, N. Palmer, J. S. Riddle; Dover, M. D. Hibbard, ch'm, J. Shadle, M. Handy, M. Markley, J. Miller, W. H. Stevens; Pike, W. P. Cowan, ch'm, W. Waffle, B. Dunbar, J. Shaffer, E. Sindel, J. N. Herrick; Fulton, O. Merrill, ch'm, J. H. Miller, T. Watkins, J. Luke, E. Werrick, E. Wilson, H. Witt, and J. Watkins; Swan Creek, A. J. Allman, ch'm, P. R. Lewis, N. Brailey, S. H. Cately, O. W. Parish, J. Hoag; York, S. Zimmerman, ch'm, B. Skeels, A. B. Gunn, J. McQuilling, T. Kelley, R. Fowler; Clinton, J. Cornell, ch'm, A. Falconner, D. A. Gorsuch, W. H. Buckmaster, J. Newcomer, T. Lingle, L. Eckhart; German, J. W. Roseborough, ch'm, J. F. Rogers, T. H. Brown, D. B. Allen, A. Markley, G. Betts."

The records of some of the townships show that considerable sums were received by the Relief Committees during the winter of 1864. For instance, Swan Creek Township Fund, 1864-65 records subscriptions of $200 each by John McLaughlin, Jonathan Hoag, and Jacob Koos, and a very lengthy list of substantial subscriptions ranging down to $25.

There was, of course, much political strife during the years of war. The Democrats who were for compromise with the Confederates were designated "Copperheads" and "traitors;" and Democrats thought quite as hardly of Union men. An 1863 issue of the "Northwestern Republican" had an editorial beginning: "Copperheads say our soldiers have all turned abolitionists, and this is because they refuse to vote for those in the North who are in sympathy with the rebels..I admit our soldiers are abolitionists; that they are in favor of abolishing treason.. Is it any wonder that our boys in the army are down on the convicted traitor, Vallandigham? Is it any wonder that they declare that Jeff

Davis is more deserving of their vote than Vallandigham? Jeff Davis is a brave traitor....A soldier voting for Vallandigham, who boasts that he never voted them a man or a dollar, would be like a Christian voting for the Devil. Our soldiers....intend to abolish treason and traitors, wherever found. That's why it is that copperheads are down on our soldiers."

The election of October 13, 1863, in Fulton County, gave Brough 1778 votes for governor, against 824 cast for Vallandigham. The Union paper, the "Northwestern Republican," recorded the voting thus: "Glorious Fulton! The Cops Skinned Alive!! Dead 'Snaiks' at a Discount!!! As usual we have met the enemy and they are ours. Never before did the Democracy meet with so withering a rebuke as was dealt out to them by the Loyal sons of our gallant Little Fulton on Tuesday last." German Township, which cast 125 votes for the "Canadian," and only 115 for Brough, was eventually "redeemed" by the vote of the soldiers.

In the following spring came the staggering news of the assassination of President Lincoln. It affected the whole-souled pioneers of Fulton County as keenly as it did the people of other parts of the country. J. W. Roseborough wrote to the Wauseon "Republican" from Burlington, O., on April 17, 1865:

"Abraham Lincoln is no more. The greatest hero, the noblest patriot, and the best statesman of the age has fallen.....No truer patriot, or more sagacious statesman ever lived in America....than Abraham Lincoln.....This will be the verdict of posterity. Abraham Lincoln, the man whom, above all others, his countrymen trusted and loved, is dead.....As fell our blessed Saviour, so hast thou, great man, fallen, by the hands of murderers.....Sleep in peace, the greatest of freedom's living or dead champions—thy name and thy fame are immortal."

And Mrs. Julia Carter Aldrich ("Petrasia Peters"), of near Wauseon, wrote:

"Assassinated. Lincoln dead. O, crushing blow
A seething chaos then before the vision whirled;
* * * * *
The Nation's joy was paralyzed in this brief time—
The Union, stabbed, in deepest mourning was arrayed.
* * * * *
In mart and port torn battle-flags half-masted hung.
Near fields with victory's gore yet red upon the sod;
Such agony could form no prayer for human tongue—
The spirit cried 'Hast thou forgotten us, Oh, God'."

And when at last the war was at an end, and party feelings were less keen, the general spirit throughout the home county was one of fervent relief, and of joyous anticipation of the final return home of the "boys," of the war-hardened veterans, and of those stalwarts who had rallied to the Union during the decisive later years of war. The spirit is well shown in a poem, composed by Carrie Hibbard, of Spring Hill, Dover Township, on July 2, 1865, "in honor of the boys in blue." Her interests were centered in the Sixty-Seventh Regiment; but she penned the sentiments of all loyal and expectant hearts in the county at that moment; and the poem is here reproduced to honor all the

patriots of Fulton County who gave themselves to the nation in its supreme need, during the years 1861-65. The poem reads:

They are coming from the Southland, to the tread of martial drum;
They are marching from their campfires,—loyal, brave, and true they come;
And our hearts go out to give them gladsome welcome as they come.

They are coming nearer, nearer; we can hear their gallant tread;
We can see their floating banner, with its bars of white and red,
And its silver constellation, sheding glory o'er each head.

They have proudly born that standard where the fiery shot and shell
In a lava tide from Wagner, and vanquished Sumter fell;
Let its glory gild each forehead; it befits them passing well.

O gallant Sixty-Seventh! When was sent upon the wire,
The tidings daily, hourly, of the sacrificial fire
How our heart-strings drew about you, husbands, brothers, sons and sires.

For those whom God commissioned, we have little need of tears
Their footprints shall be stardust, through a thousand thousand years
And the banners o'er those battlements are never drenched with tears.

And to you, O brave, returning to your North, tried, gallant, true,
Every breeze shall bear the greeting the united waft to you;
And our grateful tears of welcome fall as the evening dew.

We have suffered, when your noble ranks were thinned upon the plain;
Have exulted when your banner rode the victor breeze again;
And gloried that its triple folds have never caught one stain.

Our glad exultant shout shall rise, to greet you as you come;
'Twill die away against the skies, above the clash of drum;
God bless the Sixty-Seventh! A thousand welcomes home.

The comradeship and loyalty one to another, while in bodily danger in the field has happily been sustained and strengthened since through the medium of the organizations of the Grand Army of the Republic. The first post organized by former soldiers, in Fulton County was known as Post No. 106, 10th Ohio District, Grand Army of the Republic. It was formed on March 18, 1867, and in September of that year its name was changed to Camp Skeels, No. 106. Some irregularity, however, in its organization brought about its disbandment in 1869, and no other post was organized in Wauseon for more than ten years, Losure Post, No. 35, coming into being on June 16, 1880. The service records of members of that post showed that M. T. Palmer had served sixty months in the army in war time. Others of long service were: Charles Cornell, 48 months; Elias Wiley, 48 months; Albert Bloomer, 43 months; Harrison Highshew 37 months; Geo. Guilford, 36 months; L. D. Bayes, 35 months; and A. R. Hill, 26 months. Charles Cornell was one of those most active effecting the organization of the first post, that of 1867; and the charter members of the second, the Losure Post, No. 35, were: A. S. Bloomer, W. C. Kelley, M. T. Palmer, A. R. Hill, A. B. Smith, E. S. Callendar, H.

H. Williams, E. T. Wilcox, H. E. Randall, W. C. Scott, Campbell Bayes, James C. King, Wm. McClaren, R. B. McLaren, Festus Funk, Andrew J. Gorsuch, Judson Jones, Enoch Neville, George Cage, Elliott Bayes, Elias Willey, E. I. Root, Henry J. Harrington, James Gray, I. H. Matthews, Marion Losure, C. B. Lyon, A. B. Clark and John Close. At fullest strength, the Losure Post had three hundred members. Today, its surviving comrades number fifty-two, the strongest post of five in Fulton County. There were originally eleven Grand Army of the Republic posts in Fulton County, but the sweep of time brought an inexorable weakening of posts, by death, until one after another merged with stronger organizations, leaving five in existence at present. The surviving comrades of Losure Post (Wauseon), No. 35, Grand Army of the Republic, on Decoration Day of 1920, were: H. T. Brigham, F. C. Bogart, L. Buxton, P. H. Bayes, Daniel Brown, M. Buehrer, A. M. Clark, C. W. Cornell, Daniel Clingaman, M. L. Eldridge,

WAUSEON, IN YEAR (1867) FIRST G. A. R. POST WAS ORGANIZED.

Joe Forest, Samuel Foncannon, Jacob Gaiman, Aaron Gingery, John Hoffmire, J. F. Hoffman, Levi Hoy, A. Hogeboom, J. H. Hunter, M. Hill, J. C. King, C. B. Lyon, L. Lyon, J. McConkey, R. B. McClaren, Stillman Mikesell, A. J. Marks, D. J. Miller, A. W. Miller, A. Mikesell, John Miller, Homer Overmire, Simon Pontious, H. R. Palmer, Enoch Porter, J. Richards, John Reeds, Joe Gallabank, E. T. Shaw, Allen Shadle, A. Sams, J. Shambarger, R. Shadel, John Winzelar, Ed. Williams, Wm. Wier, S. Walter, Isaac Whipple, Martin Worley, T. D. Foster, Fred Phillipar, G. D. Newcomer.

Those of Stout Post Grand Army of the Republic, of Fayette on that date were: C. L. Allen, J. W. Binns, Samuel Bear, Frank Bilding, Henry Coleman, Joseph Harrison, Lorenzo Gamber, S. A. Jones, Aaron Kuney, Theo. Sebring, Jacob Reynolds, H. M. Rice, Peter Landis, Eli Thompson, John D. Vine, William Wright, Wm. Westfall, and Frank Woolace.

Those surviving comrades of Quiggle Post, No. 289 (Swanton), of Grand Army of the Republic on Decoration Day, 1920, were: William Palmer, Abram Huftile, D. M. Alton, L. G. Marsh, Geo. Conklin,

Wm. Maberry, William Hill, Jerry Walters, Lewis Aton, James Hallet, Silas Munsel, Geo. Harrington, Jno. Snellbaker, J. Whidden, C. Merrill, Gil. Smith, Wm. Sheffer, T. Little, J. Kirschner, W. S. Barnes, P. C. Houser.

Those of Baxer Post, No. 238 (Lyons), which was organized in 1882 with eighteen charter members, were, on Decoration Day, 1920: Fred A. Slater, Augustus Noble, A. C. Daniel, original charter members and Wayne Carpenter, Chas. Blaine, Wm. Thornton, L. B. Champlain, Mel Hinkle, James Kellogg, and F. A. Moses, ten in all.

Lastly, the surviving comrades of McQuillan Post (Delta) on the same day were: Quimby Batdorff, Frank Briggs, Horatio Berkey, Henry Cottrell, Wm. E. Hopkins, Jacob Hiser, W. E. Hill, C. L. Hatfield, C. S. Griffin, Samuel Frybarger, S. B. Finney, Nelson Falor, B. F. Miley, Samuel Murray, Jacob Anderson, John J. Zelner, John A. Williams, E. L. Waltz, F. S. Wolcott, A. H. Stine, Sylvester Soles, Hosea Shadle, H. H. Quiggle, E. C. Moor, D. T. Miller, J. M. Longnecker, Daniel M. Tremaine, E. S. Kennedy, and Geo. D. Havens.

May they have still many more years of comfortable life, honored and respected by their fellow-townsmen, and by the people of the county in general, and saved from all care or financial worries by the provident hand of "Uncle Sam," who in the recently increased pension has again declared the nation's indebtedness to the soldiers of 1861-65, and its determination that some of the debt shall be repaid. All cannot be, but those stalwart patriots seek not the luxuries and artificialities of modern life. As a matter of fact, most of them have done independently-well in civil life, and have been useful productive citizens.

The Civil War section of this chapter ought rightly to contain some information regarding the work of the Woman's Relief Corps. Auxiliary organizations of the Grand Army of the Republic were established at most of the county posts, and contributed much to the usefulness of the posts. The first organization was formed in Denver, Colorado, in 1883, and the first to be established in Fulton County was the Woman's Relief Corps, No. 20, of Wauseon. That came into existence in February, 1884, with a charter membership of thirty-two, but with a strength soon afterwards, and for many years, of more than one hundred. During the first seven years, they received and expended in Fulton County and other parts of the state, $962. The relief work, outside of money, cannot well be estimated, as in the early years it consisted of a call and gathering of the Corps for a day's work for a destitute family, or a needy sister; of clothing gathered and remodeled; of visits to the sick; and in many other ways doing such work as one would expect of an earnest band of Christian women, devoted to the interests of the Grand Army, to humanity, and to the nation. All the Relief Corps units of the county were imbued with like spirit, and were equally effective. The first president of the Wauseon body was Mrs. Mary C. Eager.

The Spanish-American War

Fulton County's good record of service, and of fitness to serve, during the Spanish-American War, grew out of the functioning of a semi-military town guard, the Wauseon Columbian Guards, which organization was mustered into the state service on January 21, 1893, becoming Company G, of the Sixteenth Ohio National Guards, which

regiment underwent strenuous training during the next few years; and months before the outbreak of war, a sifting process had been pursued, the authorities generally feeling that war was more than possible. Companies were not only steadily recruited, but saw many eliminations as well. Men of family, to whom war service would entail hardships either upon themselves, or their dependents, were given an opportunity honorably to separate themselves from the service. The ranks were searched for men who might have difficulty in qualifying under U. S. Army standards, and recruits were given much more searching examination than at any time since the regiment had been formed. Therefore, long before the declaration of war with Spain, the Sixteenth was filled with selected men, who could be counted upon to give a good account of themselves, whatever might be demanded of their organization. With the blowing up of the U. S. S. Maine, on the night of February 14, 1898, while lying peaceably in Havana Harbor, war became inevitable. In April came the call to the Ohio National Guard, and on the 25th, the Sixth Ohio National Guard under which designation the former Sixteenth Regiment then was, organized at Toledo, amid scenes of great excitement. Regarding Fulton County's part, the local paper of April 29, 1898, stated:

"Captain Weir, of Co. G, received orders from Colonel McMaken, of the 16th Regiment, Sunday morning, to get his company together, and be ready to leave at an hour's notice. The Losure Post Drum Corps was called out and messages sent into the country to inform the members of the Company to report at the Armory and by eleven o'clock the Armory presented a very busy appearance. This gave impetus to enlisting, and before Sunday evening fully forty new men were taken into the company, and made soldiers of Uncle Sam. Although the company was ready to leave Sunday afternoon, no orders came until Tuesday morning, the boys in the meantime remaining about the Armory.... When the order came early Tuesday morning, the greatest enthusiasm prevailed among the men, and they were escorted to the depot by hundreds of people, with the music of fife and drum. The feminine portion of the crowd shed tears....while the men all had an encouraging word.....for those who were going forth in defence of the country's flag."

Another Wauseon paper stated:

"Wauseon had not witnessed such an excited scene since the Civil War as that which attended the departure of Company G for the war. Amid cheers, and cries of farewell, and tears and waving of handkerchiefs and laughter, and cries of advice, the train that bore the militiamen rolled away from the Lake Shore Depot, on Tuesday morning, taking with it the blessings and 'God-speed' of the whole town. It seemed that everyone was there. The crowd packed the platform from end to end, and overflowed onto the lawn, and even covered the freight car roofs on the siding. It was a bright day of clear sky and sun, and if there were many tears shed, there was no gloom but unbounded enthusiasm, and hope....An hour before train time, the fire bell was rung to let everyone know that the company was to assemble.... Friends had already begun to assemble at the armory, and at the depot....The crowds increased and then the veterans of Losure Post came marching up the street, carrying Old Glory and stepping to fife and drum, as they did so many years ago.....Every man of prominence was at the Armory....The mothers, and wives and sweet-

hearts and every friend of every man in blue were there. It was a time when the women, and even the men were not ashamed of tears, and many were seen choking back the sobs, as they shook hands, or kissed their loved ones good bye....Captain Weir ordered the march across to the depot....Slowly the train started and the crowd surged around and behind it, and cheered and cheered again. Handkerchiefs were waved, last shoutings of farewell were mingled with the scattering reports of a salute, fired by the boys from the rear platform of the last car, as it rolled on, faster and faster, to the east, carrying with it seventy-five of the best youth of Fulton county."

On the following Friday, the regiment, which came to be known as the Sixth Ohio Volunteer Infantry, left for Columbus, going into Camp Bushnell, the hastily prepared rendezvous for Ohio's troops, at that place. The accommodation was very crude, and much hardship had to be endured by the men during those early days. On the 16th of May, the Sixth Regiment was mustered into the United States service, and on the 17th left Columbus for Chattanooga, which place was reached by noon of the next day. Toward evening, the regiment moved to Rossville, Ga., and early the following morning, in heavy marching order hiked to Camp Geo. H. Thomas, at Chickamauga Park. From its entrance into Chickamauga, the Sixth was brigaded with the 158th Indiana, and the 1st West Virginia, the three regiments constituting the 2nd Brigade, 2nd Division, 1st Army Corps, the brigade commander being Brigadier General Wm. J. McKee. On August 27, 1898, the regiment left Chickamauga, en route for Knoxville, Tenn., and became a part of the 1st Brigade, 1st Division, 1st Army Corps. The regiment was destined to remain at Camp Poland, Knoxville, Tenn., until December, and when eventually on December 29, 1898, it reached Charleston, S. C., and embarked on the U. S. A. T. "Minnewaska," bound for Cienfuegos, Cuba, it was an organization much changed from that which left Toledo, in the previous April. The regiment had been depleted much by sickness, typhoid, dysentery, measles, and other scourges, but those who sailed were fit and strong and well drilled and disciplined soldiers, capable of doing well in any emergency. Cienfuegos Harbour was entered on the afternoon of January 4, 1899, and on the following morning, the Sixth Regiment debarked. The regiment remained in Cuba until April 22, 1899, doing garrison duty, and on that date sailed for Savannah, and after an irksome period of detention in camp near that city and some feting at Augusta, the Ohio regiment left for home, having been mustered out of the service on May 24th, at Camp McKenzie, near Augusta, Georgia. As to the casualties while in Federal service, many men were discharged because of sickness, but Company G was fortunate in having to record only four deaths: Frank C. Ritenhous, of Tedrow, who died on November 26, 1898; Ellis Terry Kunkle, who died on December 30, 1898; Samuel Williams, of Delta, who died on May 24, 1898; and W. B. Whitehorn, of Archbold, who died on September 7, 1898. The commissioned Fulton County men who were members of Company G. were: John A. Weir; Frank Outcalt, Melvin W. McConkey, and George W. Cunningham, first lieutenants. Frank Outcalt and Melvin G. McConkey both resigned, while the regiment was still in training camp. Still, they did valuable and appreciated work in the early organization of the company.

The Fulton County men who were members of Company G. Sixth Ohio Volunteer Infantry, when mustered into the federal service, at Columbus, in May, 1898, were:

Aldrich, Wm.
Barnes, Harry A.
Barnes, James W.
Barrett, Harry
Biddle, Charles
Barhite, Harry G.
Bowers, Chris
Bruning, Aug.
Bayes, C. A.
Bell, John J.
Bunting, C.
Brant, Oscar T.
Brailey, Ora L.
Bolles, Marion E.
Cornell, W. E.
Cornell, Fred B.
Clark, S. S.
Cunningham, J. B.
Carr, J. M.
Calkins, Chas. F.
Croninger, F. L.
Casler, M. J.
Dye, Dora
Divert, Orin
Doriot, Loren
Duncan, Perry
Ennis, Robert L.
Funk, A. L.
Grandy, Frank
Grandy, Clyde M.
Gardner, K. E.
Gilbert, Earl D.
Garrett, Wm. E.
Gehring, Geo. W.
Graves, Marshall T.
Gortner, A. F.
Hallett, Clarence
Haley, Orin A.
Humphreys, A. H.
Hill, Charles R.
Isbell, Edward E.
Johnson, Chas. P.
Kennedy, James E.
Krause, Albert C.
Kenyon, Frank C.
Kline, John
Lawrence, W.
Lewinski, Gustav
Lee, Bertram E.
Lee, Harmon A.
Kunkle, E. T.
Lamb, Allie J.
Mover, Foster
Miller, Chas. P.
Mitchell, V.
Mikesell, Geo. W.
McConkey, M. W.
Miley, Ernest
Munal, Chas. C.
Nofziger, Jonas
Neville, John H.
Newman, Frank
Outcalt, J. F.
Overmeyer, S. B.
Prine, A. E.
Pontious, C. B.
Prentiss, C. W.
Planson, F. M.
Purdy, Harry
Quiggle, T. M.
Reed, Geo. D.
Roddy, Wm.
Reed, John J.
Rittenhouse, F. C.
Ritzenthaler, F.
Shaffer, J. A.
Scott, D. A.
Scott, Chas. A.
Soles, Judson A.
Smith, Fred W.
Smith, Alva
Shaffer, Roll. B.
Smith, Louis
Struble, Jasper
Swihart, Jos.
Schmitz, Hy.
Sweeny, John E.
Stites, Percy
Stratton, Cecil
Stutesman, S. S.
Sherwood, James J.
Sangston, W. W.
Swan, Theodore
Tremain, Ross
Trumppower, Homer
Thompson, C. M.
Terry, Ellis M.
Upp, Jocelyn
Verity, James L.
Wilson, Geo. C.
Wade, Jesse
Wibert, C. A.
Winchell, F. A.
Warner, A. F.
Williams, Harry E.
Williams, Leland S.
Whittaker, H. M.
Wallace, A. E.
Williams, Samuel
Whitehorn, W. B.
Walker, Harvey S.
Weir, John A.
Ziegler, Bert
Zoll, Earl

When the men of Company G returned to Wauseon, there was a great and joyous demonstration, "'a fitting testimonial to their patriotism, valor, and humanitarism." Stores were closed, and the men from Cuba sat down to a sumptious banquet at the Armory. The people of Fulton County fulfilled the promises made by the poet who wrote:

"When the boys come back—O, what a joyful day
When the marching columns enter, and the silver bugles play!
Aye, when the victors come, we will make the highways hum,
With the clashing of the cymbals, and the rolling of the drum;
We will set the bells aswing, we will make the cannon ring
To the music of the welcome that our lips are proud to sing.

When the boys come back, we will gather at their side,
And listen to their stories, with a never tiring pride,
How they crossed the Cuban waters.....
.....we will gather from their lips,
We will show them how we estimate their valor and their worth,
We'll rainbow ev'ry village, with the old Red, White and Blue,
To tell of our devotion, as the trains pass through;

* * * * *

And the men of other wars, with their crutches and their scars,
Will swell the shouting multitudes that cluster at the cars,
While the shade of Lincoln rises, with his loving hands outspread
With welcomes for the living, and with blessings for the dead.

* * * * *

Ah, the earth will quake and quiver, with the dynamite we'll crack
In honor of their prowess, when the boys come back.

The sacrifices of the men who saw national service during the Spanish War were great. In the camps, their comfort was not catered to in such an elaborate manner as the soldiers of the next great war were destined to experience. Their rations were not on the elaborate standard set for units of the World War; and the sanitary arrangements were poor. Consequently there was much sickness, and a grievious death roll in the training camps. Furthermore, the soldiers were not paid within fifty per centum of the scale of the United States Army of 1917; and there was little home relief. So that the nation is particularly indebted to those patriots who rallied so eagerly to the flag after the sinking of the Maine.

Like the veterans of the Civil War, those of the Spanish-American War have their fraternal organization. There is one post of the Spanish-War veterans in Fulton County. It centers in Wauseon, and Fred Croninger is present commander; but it is understood, its membership now only numbers thirteen.

The World War

There was a remarkable difference in expression, or in the extent of expression, when the news went through the country that the nation was in a "State of War" with Germany. When war was declared against Spain, in 1898, the newspapers could not be "held down" to reasonable headlines; when it dawned upon the Press, in April, 1917, that war between Germany and the United States was actually a present state, that war had been actually existent between the two nations for some time, because of the disregard by Germany of the rights of neutrals, which disregard became intolerable by her murderous and indiscriminate submarine policy, the newspaper captions seemed to reflect the general opinion of the momentous state into which the nation had been drawn. Yet the stupendous possibilities thrust upon the people of this free land by a militaristic power, which had no place in its theories for the uncontrollable dictates of honor and sentiment, and therefore could not conceive it possible that any nation would place her honor before material interests, were too great and serious to find expression readily in words . The time had come for action. There were no startling newspaper headlines. Almost without exception the Fulton County papers of the first week of April, 1917, held comment on the state of war down to less than one column of space. It seemed as though

a grim determination had taken hold of all classes in the nation to dispense with all "fireworks," and "clear decks for action." The Wauseon "Republican" of April 6, 1917, stated:

"The Senate, Wednesday night, passed the resolution declaring state of war exists between the United States and Germany. The vote was 82 to 6....The government is now engaged in gigantic military problems now confronting the nation. All classes and conditions among the American people must bear their full share of war-burdens. There are to be no favored classes, and no discrimination between the rich and poor.

"The decision of the government in favor of universal military service, it was officially stated, will discourage and prevent the raising of regiments as in former times....It is thought the volunteer system has received its death blow and the nation will soon have 500,000 men under arms."

That was the only comment made upon an undertaking which might take the blood and life of hundreds of thousands of the nation's young men; the end of which conflict some experts had estimated might be years distant; yet, it was appropriate comment: grim, deliberate, business-like,—like the national administration had become, and like the people, in all phases of war activity, were destined to become.

It is national history, known well to all, how the United States raised its citizen army; how it overcame the almost, and some thought quite, unsurmountable difficulties of transportation through submarine infested waters; and how, in 1918, when the last great German drive seemed likely to reach Paris, the American troops barred the way in such numbers, and with such freshness and irresistible will to conquer, that it brought to the German authorities and people the irrefutable realization that the end was near; that their dream of world domination would not be consummated in fact. A glorious chapter in United States history, in World history in fact, is that of America's part in the World War; and the more than two hundred thousand casualties sustained by the American forces during the about six months of severe fighting in which the United States had decisive part proved to the world that America did not shrink from the direst and most grim realities of war. The American "doughboys" went out to fight; left their native land in the dead of night, without the blare of trumpets or the thrill of drum-beat; without even a touch of relieving color in their dress—not even a bright button. All was drab. They crossed the dark ocean, living in life-jackets, with the ever-present possibility of an "Abandon ship" call, and a plunge into the cold all-devouring sea, they were hustled secretly from place to place, in a, mostly, damp, dreary, drizzly, drab country; moved silently and in darkness, one by one, into a front-line trench, with its mud, its rats, its stenches of decomposing matter, often human; yet, through it all, there was a brightness that could not, would not, be dimmed—the spirit of the American boys, who would not be downhearted, who could not be subdued. That spirit won the war. A haughty Prussian major was captured by American troops, and when asked what he thought of the doughboy's fighting qualities, threw up his hands, at the thought of it—at the appalling impossibility of fighting against them: "Doughboys? Americans? Impossible!" he exclaimed. "We can't fight against them. They fight by no book of tactics—and I have but two eyes. Americans?" again he threw up his hands. "They're everywhere. They just bob up like rabbits, from nowhere,—and,—and, it's all over."

FULTON COUNTY'S FIRST DETACHMENT FOR NATIONAL ARMY, PRIOR TO DEPARTURE FOR CAMP SHERMAN, SEPTEMBER 6, 1917.

It was so. The vast spaces of this continent, the freedom of life, the illimitable resources of the country, all have had part in building into the character of the average American citizen an initiative, self-reliance, and bouyancy, that sent him irresistibly forward. It may be well presumed that there were quite a few Fulton County boys who helped to bewilder the Germans, from Chateau Thierry to Metz. Fulton County men took part in every major battle in which the American Expeditionary Forces were present, from Chateau Thierry on to the end of hostilities on November 11, 1918, when they were before Metz, after having passed through the withering struggle of the Argonne. It is not possible to single out regiments, or companies, for unlike former wars this war was conducted by nations, not by armies, and that general spirit ran through the military administration. A man was placed in the niche that best fitted him, or at least an endeavor was made so to do. Localities did not count, and, with the exception of the National Guard troops, regiments were made up of men of many states. The adoption of Selective Service cut away local lines, and while it generally happened that a division could to some extent be localized, it was in reality because of its organization in a particular state, at a cantonment to which were ordered, because of transportation limitations, the men called into service from that district. It is probable, however, that the majority of Fulton county's contribution to the American army was absorbed by the Thirty-Seventh, Forty-Second, Eighty-Third, Eighty-Fourth, Eighty-Fifth, and Eighty-Sixth divisions, although local men were to be found in the earlier divisions, down to the First, and Third. It has been somewhat difficult to compile a comprehensive list of those Fulton County men who served, for the reason that no authentic official records have yet been issued. The War and Navy Departments, at Washington, now have such lists in process of compilation, but years may elapse before compilation has been completed, and the record published. There will, probably, be some names of ex-service men omitted from the following list, for the records of the local Draft Board would not represent all who served, many having volunteered before the operation of the Selective Service system. Some had gone into the regular army or National Guard units; some had enlisted in the naval forces; while some, indeed, much to their credit, had gone into Canada to enlist in the Canadian, or British forces in the dark, dark, days, long before this nation had become involved in the world-changing cataclysm. However, the list printed below will probably be the most complete yet compiled. It has been based upon that prepared by the state headquarters of the American Legion, and made available for the purpose of this historical work through the courtesy of Dr. W. H. Maddox, of Wauseon, county chairman of the American Legion committee; and many names have been added to the Legion list. Therefore it is here presented as a current contribution to county history, and as a tribute to the cheerful and self-sacrificing national service given by so many stalwart stout-hearted young men of Fulton County—men who are worthy successors of the pioneers of the county and of its veterans of other wars. The list begins with:

Acker, Harold E.	Aldrich, John P.	Andrews, L. G.
Aeschliman, Ezra W.	Alpough, Wm. N.	Arps, Herman F.
Agsten, Harvey	Allen, Fred S.	Arnsberger, Ervin B.
Agsten, Charles	Allion, Ray	Arnsberger, Perry
Aeschliman, Simon	Altman, Henry	Arnsberger, Coy

Arbuckle, Omar
Atwater, Paul E.
Atkinson, Rd. M.
Aumend, Noel M.
Augustine, Wm. J.
Bachman, Roscoe C.
Bachman, Roland H.
Babcock, Alfred
Babcock, Cleo
Bachman, B. J.
Batdorf, Glen E.
Barrett, Arthur B.
Barrett, Ivan H.
Baker, Walter J.
Bartel, Albert L.
Bauer, George
Barnes, Merle E.
Barnes, Donald E.
Baer, Grover J.
Baker, Edward
Basinger, Elmer
Basinger, Floyd
Bauers, Adolph
Bayes, Harold H.
Barker, Forrest R.
Barkman Paul F.
Baker, Harry
Bair, Arthur J.
Best, Carlton W.
Becker, August F.
Bell, Wm. H.
Beck, Ralph R.
Benner, Arthur B.
Berry, Thomas L.
Back, William
Belknap, Fred G.
Burgoon, Reo. D.
Benner, Leroy
Beilharz, Clair
Beebe, Orson
Bell, Donald
Bick, Wade
Bissonette, Robert
Barchart, Henry A.
Baum, Alfred J.
Biddle, Walter J.
Bingham, Ralph J.
Baldwin, Jesse
Barber, Frank
Barber, Fred
Bixler, Wm. M.
Bixler, Walter W.
Bialeski, Nicholas

Biery, Leland
Bloom, Willie
Bloom, Thomas
Blaker, Fred A.
Blair, Glenn E.
Bowman, Welton
Boner, Paul L.
Bower, Clair F.
Borten, Arthur V.
Bokerman, Lawr. A.
Bonnell, Lawrence
Bost, Charles
Bowser, C. E.
Brown, Lawrence
Brown, Don M.
Bretthauer, Ernest
Brailey, H. E.
Bryant, Jas. O.
Brehm, Andy H.
Brehm, Harvey J.
Britsch, Carl
Bushey, Ralph L.
Burkholder, Ord. W.
Buehrer, Lloyd L.
Buttermore, E. F.
Buckenmeyer, Ed.
Burdue, Fred
Busack, Ernest
Buehrer, Claude L.
Buehrer, Theo.
Buehrer, Clayton O.
Buehrer, Clar. E.
Busack, Delbert L.
Burroughs, Elvin
Burkett, Chas. F.
Buck, Oakley D.
Burkett, William E.
Buckenmeyer, Leo J.
Bushey, Ralph
Burgoon, Reo. D.
Bundy, James L.
Carpenter, Chas. J.
Carver, C. H. R.
Carpenter, Charley C.
Cameron, Geo. R.
Cately, Narion T.
Casler, Edward T.
Calkins, Tom H.
Caulkins, Donald M.
Camp, Ignatius M.
Carroll, Clarence P.
Cass, Loren L.
Caswell, Floyd

Carpenter, Peter T.
Cass, Fred V.
Campbell, Ralph V.
Campbell, Clair S.
Canfield, —
Clark, Clair C.
Chamberlin, Clair S.
Christman, Floyd M.
Clifton, Harold G.
Clair, Leon
Clark, Walter J.
Clymer, Russell R.
Cline, Leo
Clough, Ephraim R.
Clymer, Paul J.
Champion, William J.
Clark, Lawrence C.
Clark, Samuel J.
Collins, Harold
Collins, Jay
Cosgrove, L. C.
Cook, Ed. Lane
Coon, Cecil C.
Corson, Chas. C.
Connin, Ralph C.
Connell, V. E.
Carpenter, Dale
Chairl, Justin
Cogan, R. V.
Cogan, Cooney
Crawtree, Harry
Crabtree, John
Crites, Peter
Curtis, Farner
Curtis, Ray C.
Cresman, Glen M.
Curtis, G.
Cunningham, Bert
Croninger, Carl M.
Chase, Ray
Davis, George
Dangler, Fred M.
Davis Morris C.
Davis, Jacob
Dangler, Mead A.
Damelley, Wm.
Dale, John
Dennis, Gale
De Long, Orville M.
Dewey, Geo. D.
Dewey, Aubrey D.
DeClare, Joe A.
DeLaney, William P.

DeLong, Lewis C.
Detterer, Arthur
DeVries, William
Deller, Clarence F.
DeGroff, Orville
Dennis, Paul D.
DeClercq, Fred'k C.
Dinsaline, Everett
Dickerson, Vern
Divert, Orrie
DeVries, Charles
Dickerson, Howard H.
Diehlman, Roy
Dolph, Howard S.
Dominique, Lenore X.
Dominique Lawr. N.
Downer, Lear
Donnelly, Orrie C.
Donnelly, Wm.
Divert, Park E.
Donat, LeRoy
Domitio, Joseph
Dowling, Harold J.
Dowell, Lloyd R.
Doren, Jesse L.
Dudley, Donald L.
Dunbar, Clarence J.
Duff, Cleo
Dunn, Russell
Dricett, Geo. W.
Drennan, Lawrence P.
Dreydopple, Geo.
Duskell, Sherman A.
Ducatt, Jay
Dunbar, John J.
DeHavens, John
Durant, William
Eaton, Joseph
Eby, Carroll
Eberly, Earl
Eckert, William P.
Eckert, Sherman L.
Echard, William O.
Eccard, Adolph
Elton, Wm. C.
Eisel, Frank
Eicher, Eldon S.
Elton, Ray E.
Eicher, Samuel E.
Ely, Glen
Elton, Floyd E.
Elliott, Geo. R.
Elton, Homer H.
Enterman Fred
Enkett, Merrill
Enfield, Wm.
Eva, Lawrence F.
Evers, Kenneth D.
Evers, W. P. V.
Farley, Ralph L.
Faber, Shirley J.
Farst, Ross E.
Fausz, Albert J.
Faver, Geo.
Fewlass, Clarence D.
Fenton, Ray N.
Freas, Lawrence H.
Fethers, Warren H.
Fettenhier, Carl J.
Finney, Fern
Finney, John B.
Fink, Albert G.
Fenton, Wade W.
Figy, Walter
Figy, Michael R.
Flory, Delor C.
Flory, B. A.
Flory, Leo. F.
Flory, Ivo J.
Flory Vincent H.
Flogus, Otis
Fleming, Carl M.
Ford, Leo A.
Ford, Wm. R.
Ford, Furman F.
Fonty, Hy. G.
Fox, Carl E.
Forrest Sanford
Forrester, Dale P.
Foore, Percy R.
Foley, Harry
Frederick, Jay
Frey, Albert L.
Frey Philemon L.
Free, Harry J.
Fraker, Earl A.
Friska, John R.
Frederick, Harry
Frantz, Kenneth P.
Franklin, Glen B.
Furney, Howard
Funhouser, Otto E.
Gardiner, H.
Galbraith, Jas.
Galbraith, Fred
Galbraith, Clarence
Gaiman, Walter D.
Gaiman, Owen C.
Gamber, Harry V.
Garlick, Ira E.
Gaiman, Charles
Garnsey, Hal
Gary, Fred
Garrett, Howard J.
Gates, Robert J.
Gerker, Fred W.
Geringer, Clifford D.
Gehring, Jas. H.
Gearig, Edwin
Geiger, Oren F.
Gerkin, Henry C.
Gelaski Frank H.
Greiser, William
George, Emerson M.
Gingrich, Carl M.
Gigax, Otto S.
Gillen, Romanus J.
Ginski, Herman
Gibbs, Clifford D.
Gleitze, William
Goll, Ralph
Goll, John D.
Goff Russell
Goodwin, Leroy
Gorsuch, Chas. E.
Gorsuch, Henry H.
Gorsuch, Walter
Gorsuch, Clarence H.
Gorsuch, Ernest D.
Goodwin, Gaylord
Goodwin, Leon D.
Gortner, Vern D.
Gortner, Frank J.
Goldsmith, Harry H.
Gouldberry, Homer O.
Gottschalk, Walter
Goldsmith, Frank
Gnagey, James
Gnagey, Elmer J.
Grime, Bert L.
Grime, Herschel
Grime, Lawrence W.
Grime, Lawrence P.
Griffith, John A.
Griffin, Cecil O.
Green, Audley A.
Graham, Ross G.
Greisinger, Chauncey

Greisinger, Lawr. O.
Greisinger, James M.
Griffin, Horace
Graner, Arthur O.
Gray, Howard T.
Greenfield M. L.
Gresman, Roy H.
George, Clair E.
Gray, Milan S.
Graf, Lloyd
Grodi, Israel A.
Guilford, Ralph P.
Gunter, Troy A.
Gunter, Lester C.
Gunn, Floyd
Gunn, Willard A.
Gunsaullus, Francis E.
Gype, Otto C.
Haas, Jacob
Harris, Henry
Harris, Harley
Harris, Carl
Harris, Stanley
Harrison, Fern D.
Harrington, Clarence
Harrington, C. M.
Harrington, Clyde A
Hayes, Paul J.
Harsh, John W.
Harms, Ralph M.
Haag, Merritt D.
Haas, Vern
Ham, Howard, R.
Harmon, Lloyd B.
Harmon, Arthur D.
Hanna, Dewey
Hartman, Earl
Hartman, Roswell G.
Hartman, Carl F.
Harding, Meryl
Harding, R.
Harrington, Floyd H.
Hawkins, John H.
Hawkins, Orville
Halderman, Sidney
Hall, Price
Hall, Geo. W.
Hassen, Leo.
Hassen, Louis E.
Hamp, Benjamin F.
Hawley, Garrett
Hatfield, Arthur N.
Hayman, Frank W.
Hendershot, Ralph W.
Herold, William
Heise, Bryan
Helmick, Anthony
Hemsoth, Paul H.
Henderer, Emile C.
Heffron, Harold
Heffron, Harold H.
Hertzberg, Martin
Heffron, — (Lt.)
Hepfinger, Clyde
Heer, Nelson V.
Herr, Louie A.
Hetzel, Roy C.
Heupel, Raymond
Hine, Ralph W.
Hine, Homer C.
Hines, Frank W.
Hines, Edward
Hirsch, Harry
Haskell, Irvin
Hitts, Wm. M.
Higley, Earl L.
Hill, Pearl
Hill, Donald W.
Hibbert, Geo. W.
Hilleary, Chas. F.
Horn, Simon F.
Howard, Francis M.
Howard, Ralph A.
Holler, John J.
Hoyt, Rollo D.
Hoover, Thomas B.
Hoffman, M. P.
Hoffmire, C. H .
Hoffmire, K.
Hoodless, Otto
Holland, Floyd V.
Horfer, W. D.
Huber, Frank L.
Huber, Emil A.
Howard, Walter
Hudson, C. A.
Hubbard, Leighton R.
Humphrey, Omar W.
Huebscher, William
Hurd, James
Iffland, Conrad
Ingraham, Ellsworth
Irwin, Howard
Jacquot, Leo. R.
Jakopeca, Paul
Jaske, Herman
Jepson, Harry D.
Johnson, Otis
Johnson, Arthur C.
Johnson, William B.
Johnson, Frank L.
Judson, Thurlow G.
Kaulkins, Earl
Kahle, Edison P.
Kastner, Earl
Kahle, Nelson A.
Kaiser, Fred
Kaiser, Mike
Kaiser, Daniel
Keafer, Robert
Kelm, Henry F.
Keaser, Harry F.
Keller, Clarence J.
Keller, Fred
Keller, Clyde H.
Kemp, Grant
Kenyon, J. Darbey
Kinney, Joseph
Kinney, Guy C.
Kindy, Ward B.
King, Wm. V.
Kinsman, Chas H.
Kinerini, George
King, Samuel, Jr.
King, Roy
Kluepfel, Fred'k H.
Klopfenstein, Ed.
Kling, Kenneth
Kline, Homer J.
Kloka, Mike
Kosier, Howard C.
Knierin, George H.
Kreiger, Geo. C.
Krueg, Peter A.
Kreiger, Ora S.
Kuney, Burr L.
Kuney, Sterling W.
Kutzli Alfred
Kutzli, Reuel
Kurth, Hugo H.
Kuhn, Louis
Kujanski, C. C.
Krause, Ora
Knight, Arthur E.
LaBounty, Dale
LaBarr, Clell. D.

Lenahan, John
Leu, Howard E.
Laurie, Chas M.
Laver, Elmer L.
Laidel, Elmer L.
Lauber, Clarence E.
Lan, Edward P.
Lantz, Edwin
Langenderfer, M.
Layman, Albert D.
Langenderfer, Leo
Lathrop, — (Lt.)
Lauber, E. J.
Leu, Clarence H.
Lehman, Frank
Lee, Howard E.
Leavy, Lawrence F.
Leininger, Gustave F.
Leu, Willard B.
Leggett, John J.
Lear, William B.
Liechty, Noah
Link, Fremont
Livingston, Frank J.
Liedel, Herbert J.
Lochbihler, P. L.
Lochbihler, Harold R.
Loeffler, Ollie
Lackman, Geo.
Loar, Leighton E.
Loar, Roland D.
Lutton, Rollie J.
Levy Emile
McLaughlin, Ralph
McConkey, Ralph J.
McLaughlin, Floyd A.
McLain, Walter S.
McKean, Fred G.
McQuillen, Albert J.
McQuillen, W. R.
McClarren, Howard
McClarren, Robert L.
McMahon, —
Mack, Leon
Marks, Claude
Marks, James R.
Marks, Roscoe
Mack, Elmer
May, Floyd O.
Mahler, Lawrence M.
Marley, John P.
Mann, Charles L.
Malone, Charles J.
Mantzer, Arnold
Marmeros, Mike C.
Mason, Abram
Maddox, William H.
Mazema, John
Mastin, Ray
Martin, Elen B.
Marshall, Garford
McLaughlin, Ralph
Merrilatt, Lloyd R.
Merrill, Francis C.
Mead, Clyde
Mead, Claude
Meister, Ralph W.
Meister, John B., Jr.
Meister, Geo. E.
Meyer, Albert
Miley, Frank K.
Miller, Levi W.
Miller, Kenneth A.
Miller, Clarence T.
Miller, Maurice J.
Miller, Frank H.
Miller, Geo. W.
Miller Edwin
Miller, Eugene
Miller, Forrest C.
Miller, Earl E.
Miller, Myron
Miller, Ray A.
Miller, Edward F.
Miller, Theophilus
Mills, Daniel C.
Mills, Harold C.
Mills, Robert D.
Mitchell, Arthur E.
Mitchell, Hazel E.
Mitchell, Fred E.
Miserny, John
Michaels, Elmer
Mohr, Verne C.
Morse, Robert
Morse, Bernard
Morse, Joseph A.
Morningstar, W. E.
Moyer, Arthur D.
Moyer, Joe D.
Mockler Floyd
Morton, Jesse J.
Monroe, Herman G.
Moodby, Oscar
Moore, Rudolph
Morrison, Guy
Murphy, Arthur E.
Munsell, Clifton
Mull, E.
Murphy, Earl W.
Murbach, Herbert C.
Murbach, Clarence F.
Murbach, E. A.
Myrick, Merrill D.
Myers, Austin G.
Myers, Herman
Myers, Walter B.
Newbrander, Carl J.
Nichel, Jos. M.
Nofziger, Harley M.
Nofziger, Clarence
Nofziger, Lester D.
Nofziger, Lloyd
Nofziger, Ora
O'Brien, Cornelius
Olney, Glen E.
Omber, John C.
Ondrejke, John
Onweller, Ralph W.
O'Neill, Fred T.
Ottgen, Samuel
Outcalt, J. F.
Palmer, Guy B.
Probert, Clyde
Parsonage, Albert
Patterson, Frank L.
Patterson, Lloyd M.
Parks, E. W.
Parker, Wm. K.
Partridge, Ross B.
Paxson, Edwin
Pennington, Guy
Peterson, J. A.
Perry, Lowell D.
Pelton, Gordon E.
Peach, Harry L.
Perkins, Ralph
Pfund, Will
Pfund, Chas.
Pfeiffer, Fred W.
Pittman, Gordon E.
Pilliod, Harry G.
Pilliod, Lawrence M.
Phillips, Geo. P.
Platt, James
Plummer, Percy G.

Potter, Ray L.
Potes, Charles I.
Powers, John P.
Poorman, Edgar A.
Poorman, Oliver F.
Poorman, Roy
Proudfoot, Forest E.
Proudfoot, Howard
Punchas, Leo S.
Pearney, Alfonzo
Richardson, A. D.
Robinson, McKinley
Radway, Wm. R.
Rawlev, Leo C.
Reed, Fred'k O.
Reichner, Clyde G.
Reichner, Roy
Reckner, Clem W.
Reighard, Claude L.
Rebuca, Edwin
Reynolds, Ralph W.
Reese, Chas E.
Rees, Robert Jr.
Regenold, Geo. O.
Regenold, Neville
Riticher, Harry J.
Rhodes, Harvey L.
Rice, Albert
Rice, Fern O.
Ries, Richard
Richardson, Clark A.
Roddy, Bert
Roddy, Henry H.
Rochte, Corwin C.
Rochte, Carroll O.
Rosebrook, Ralph R.
Reith, George S.
Reichert, Fred
Reichert, Alfred
Rowe, Ernest C.
Robinson, Myrl E.
Robinson, Wm. M.
Robinson, James T.
Robinson, Orrin R.
Rorick, E. H.
Rowe, Elmer
Roth, Joseph
Roberts, Howard F.
Ruihley, E. F.
Ruihley, Aaron
Ruffer, Harold H.
Rupp, Ora
Rupp, Walter
Rupp, Moses
Rupp, Ira H.
Ruth, Geo. E.
Rychener, Ralph O.
Rychener, R. R.
Rychener, Wm. H.
Rychenghern, —
Sams, Everett E.
Sattler, Wm. G.
Sattler, Paul
Sagert, Roy J.
Schultz, Wm. H.
Schultz, Ross E.
Schamp, Glen
Schamp, Harold D.
Schlegel, Henry
Schroeder, Carl F.
Schnaffner, Ollie
Schuster, Clayton E.
Schaechterle, Fred D.
Schwyn, Albert
Schaffner, Earl V.
Schaber, Harvey
Schmitz, Leo
Schwalley, Alpheus
Schlapper, John F.
Schrag, Solomon
Schlatter, Floyd
Schantz, Lloyd C.
Segrist, Walter A.
Segrist, Ralph J.
Seaman, Harry A.
Seiffert, Harry
Shibler, Eli
Short, Jesse, Jr.
Short, Joseph L.
Short, Eddie A.
Short, Seth J.
Scott, Leroy H.
Sharp, Lloyd H.
Showater, Lawr. G.
Shibler, Elmer
Shaffer Clyde H.
Sheffer, Clyde M.
Shaffer, Lawrence J.
Shaffer, Leslie
Shoemaker, Ralph
Shults, James
Shelt, Daniel V.
Shiepfer, John F.
Sherrif, Foy K.
Simon, Raymond L.
Stiriz, Wm. P.
Siegel, McKinley
Simms, Willard E.
Simon, Nicholas A.
Simpson, Geo.
Siefert, Albert
Siefert, John
Sipe, Rowley
Skeels, Walter D.
Skeels, Dudley K.
Skeels, Howard P.
Slupman, Clarence
Sharples, O. L.
Smith, Fred W.
Smith, Newton E.
Smith, Clyde
Smith, Leland D.
Smith, Forest L.
Smith, Robert F.
Smith, Rueben E.
Smart, Seth J.
Snider, Chas. D.
Snyder, Roy F.
Snyder, Geo. H.
Sharpe, Walter
Siefert, Fred
Snow, Roy W.
Sower, Geo. W.
Sower, Whitley
Snyder, Eli A.
Snellbaker, Clyde
Sommers, Jay
Sperling, Harry E.
Sperling, Lawrence L.
Spoerle, Gerald E.
Spade, Glen
Spade, Paul
Spade, Chris. P.
Sharples, Leslie
Smallman, Ralph
Smallman, Lloyd
Struble, Burton O.
Stebbins, Harry W.
Spengler, Jacob H.
Stewart, Neville E.
Steinbrecher, Hy
Steinbrecher, John
Stevens, Irving R.
Stevens, Wm. S.
Stewart, Chester A.
Stillwater, Ulrich G.

Strong, Ross
Standish, Clement
Stadler, Wm.
Stine, Frank
Stuckey, Simon
Stamm, Alvin
Stamm, Albert
Stine, Emmett W.
Stotzer, Harold F.
Stalens, Theophilus
Stoner, Clyde E.
Stemen, Earl
Swisher, Clark O.
Swisher, Wm. B.
Sweeney, Harry J.
Sweeney, Harold E.
Stratton, Odell
Skeels, Sheldon
Tester, James H.
Textor, Bert
Thomas, Elery E.
Thomas, Parker E.
Thomas, Ray
Thomas, John
Theobald, Paul
Thompson, Fred G.
Thierry, Uriah
Toms, Henry O.
Trumbull, Ray W.
Trumbull, Allen R.
Trumbull, Clayton
Trowbridge, Ray M.
Trowbridge, F. H.
Treadway, Harry R.
Trumppower, G. E.
Tyler, Harry S.
Upp Clarence R.
Van Volkenburg, L.
Van Wagner, C. H.
Van Dyke, James
Vaughn, Kenneth
Vernier, Roscoe F.
Vernier, A. J.
Vernier, Hazens
Vermilyea, V. W.
Verlinde, Emil
Vermeulea, Alfonzo
Vershein, Francis S.
Verbair, William
Viers, William
Viers, Frank L.
Vonier, Lloyd
Vonier, Joseph
Vonier, Otto
Vollmer, Walter C.
Wales, William W.
Wales, Robert
Walters, George
Walters, Harry O.
Walter, Lynn
Waters, George
Watkins, Ross
Watkins, Ora A.
Ward, Leslie S.
Wagoner, Roy W.
Weber, Harry C.
Weber, Edward
Weber, Joseph C.
Weber, Andrew
Weber Aurelius C.
Weihl, Edgar H.
Whipple, Basil
Welling, Howard
Wentz, Melvin R.
Welch, Fred
Werder, Iran W.
Weott, John
Weickesser, Albert A.
Walters, Russell L.
Whetstone, Millard P.
Whitcomb, Chas. E.
Whiton, John M.
Whitcomb, Ora
Wilson, Chas. O.
Wilson, Howard B.
Williams, Lawr. S.
Wisner, Vern A.
Winterfield, Walter J.
Wiley, Ralph
Wilkins, Arch. M.
Winslow, Glenn
Worthington, Peter E.
Woodard, Donald C.
Wolf, Adolph
Woodward, Loren T.
Wright, Frank A.
Wyse, Chauncey E.
Wyse, William H.
Yeager, Clarence H.
Yeager, Robert B.
Yaney, Harry
Yahlke, Robert
Yahlke, Herman
Zeck, Emile
Zeigler, Earl
Ziegler, Frank
Zimmerman, George
Zimmerman, Lloyd J.

The following men had commissioned grade: Carl F. Hartman, major; Arch. M. Wilkins, L. C. Cosgrove, captains or majors; C. F. Murbach, E. A. Murbach, Colenzo H. Hoffmire, H. T. Gray, J. F. Outcalt, C. S. Campbell, Ralph Reynolds, W. O. V. Evers, Wm. H. Maddox, captains; Lathrop, Heffron, Hudson, H. E. Bailey, A. D. Moyer, Ralph Bushey, Fern Harrison, Otis Johnson, L. G. Andrews, Darby Kenyon, Glenn Schamp, Ross Strong, lieutenants.

It is not possible to state who was the first Fulton County boy to enter the service, and the credit should be given to those who left peaceful homes and prosperous country to go into the vortex of war, as volunteers, in the Canadian or British armies. The first Wauseon man to qualify for entry to one of the United States officers' training camps was Otis Johnson, on May 4, 1917. Some, during April, May, or June, of 1917, drifted away, almost unnoticed, to enlist at Toledo, and other places in the Army or Navy, but on June 5th came the registra-

FULTON COUNTY'S SECOND DETACHMENT, FIFTY SEVEN MEN, FOR NATIONAL ARMY, PRIOR TO DEPARTURE FOR CAMP SHERMAN, OHIO, SEPTEMBER 19, 1917.

tion of all male citizens, declarants, and alien residents, between the ages of twenty-one and thirty one years, so that the Selective Service system might take the place of indiscriminate recruitment of volunteers. The first detachment to leave Fulton county, for service in the new National Army, consisted of seven men, Robert J. Bissonette, Albert L. Frey, Otto E. Funkhouser, Fern D. Harrison, Paul H. Hemsoth, Frank H. Miller, and Carl F. Schroder. They left, for Camp Sherman, Chillicothe, Ohio, on September 6, 1917. This detachment was followed by a second, of fifty-seven men, on September 19th, and a third detachment, of forty-eight men, on October 3, 1917. Although their subsequent movements because of military exigency and the need for secrecy as to troop movements, were somewhat drab, the "send-off" given them by their home-folk was worthy of the county, and of their subsequent battle records. The people of the county gathered in thousands at Wauseon, on the days of departure of the detachments. The "Democratic Expositor," of September 21, 1917, stated that "about 2,500 to 3,000 people turned out Wednesday morning, to bid 'God speed' to the boys who are going into training, to defend human rights and civilized liberty. There were among the boys those who were sad, because they knew that either at home, or in the crowd, was mother with an all-but-broken heart. So the occasion was not the most cheerful one, although the boys bore up bravely." Two weeks later, "about 3,000 people assembled in Wauseon, Wednesday morning, October 3rd," stated the same paper, "to see Fulton County's third contingent go forth....Everybody was here, from far and near, throughout the county. The Old Veterans' Fife and Drum Corps, the Boy Scouts Bugle Corps, the Archbold Band, and the Swanton Band were all present, and helped to swell the patriotism within the hearts of all." There was not an extravagant voicing of effusive and fulsome words, but the hand-grips that returned those of the boys were expressive of the feelings that in many cases made words impossible. And, as a whole, the boys left cheerfully. As the war proceeded and detachment after detachment left Fulton County, the gathering of those who longed to give the departing boys a last hand-shake seemed to increase with each departure. On May 29, 1918, when a detachment left for Camp Taylor, one of the local newspapers reported that "more than eight thousand people gathered at Wauseon to extend greetings to the departing boys" adding that "it was a sad great day when our boys marched away; sad because of the vacant places in the homes, great because of the manhood, bravery and patriotism of the people, and these sons of ours, who are ready to fight, and die if need be, that Old Glory might continue to stand as the banner of liberty, justice and equality; great because of the womanhood, which gave us these sons, and, in the name of America, bade them go....for Humanity's sake."

And when, having passed through the vortex, having had more than one glimpse of the hell war is, and of the extra-ordinary heinousness of this war, with its poison gases, its high explosives, and its almost-subterranean life, the boys returned home, in twos and threes, or small groups at best, the citizens named a day upon which they would formally welcome the heroes back to the home-fold. October 1, 1919, was the day decided upon, and then "hundreds of soldiers, sailors and marines of all wars, their wives, sweethearts, fathers and mothers, brothers and sisters and friends, were the guests of the county in this

FULTON COUNTY'S THIRD DETACHMENT, FORTY-EIGHT MEN, PRIOR TO DEPARTURE FOR CAMP SHERMAN, OHIO, OCTOBER 3, 1917.
(Photo by Dangler, Wauseon.)

vicinity, and town folks of Wauseon" stated the Wauseon "Republican." "It was a day of rejoicing and good fellowship. About 500 service men were registered, and their guests swelled the number to nearly 800 who were given a magnificent dinner by men and women of this community." Continuing the paper reported:

"The farmers brought in chickens, and the very best that the soil could produce of the things that were good to eat, while the town folks joined in supplying pies, cakes, bread, etc., and the business men raised and spent about $1,100 for supplies and entertainment. Nothing was left undone to add to the pleasure of the day. So, let it rain. What do we care, so long as all went merry as a marriage bell, when our boys and their friends were having a good time. The free attractions were of high character. The Archbold, Defiance, and Boy Scout bands kept the air filled with good music, while the Merry-go-round contributed its share to the entertainment. It was a great community meeting, the farmer folks joining with the town folks in the celebration."

Some of the boys who went away in 1917, or 1918, did not gather for the 1919 celebration. They could not attend, excepting in spirit. They had made

The Supreme Sacrifice

had had their names entered in national annals among those of other patriots who had laid down their lives in defence of their country. Fulton County's list is an honorable and honored one, and well might the grief of those mothers who bore such valiant sons be tempered by the pride they must feel in realizing that their offsprings have place upon the greatest, the supreme Roll of Honor of this great nation. Those Fulton County patriots who were killed in action, who died of wounds, or from other causes, in France, or who succumbed to the hardships or rigorous military training in this country, were:

Agsten, Charles C.
Brehm, Harvey
Becker, August
Bixler, William
Buehrer, Clayton O.
Camp, Ignatius
Cook, Edward Lane
Curtis, Clifton
Dale, John
DeHavens, John
Dickerson, Vern
Dunn, Russell
Durant, William
Eckhart, Wm.
Elmwood, Lawrence D.
Elton, Clifford
Flory, Leo. E.
Gardiner, H.
Graham, Ross
Gibbs, Clifford
Hall, Geo. W.
Hine, Homer
Howard, Walter
Hoover, George
Hurd, James
Kleupfel, Fred H.
Knight, Arthur E.
Kaulkins, Earl
Keller, Clyde
Lenahan, John
Lauber, Clarence C.
McLaughlin, Ralph
Mastin, Ray
Michael, Elmer A.
Murbach, Herbert C.
Nofziger, Lloyd
Pearney, Alfonzo
Robinson, McKinley
Richardson, A. D.
Rupp, Moses
Schwyn, Albert
Sharpe, Walter
Siefert, Fred
Skeels, Walter
Skeels, Sheldon
Stratton, Odell
Steinbrecker, Henry
Weckesser, Albert A.
Wright, Frank

The first Wauseon boy to give his life was Walter M. Howard, son of former County Treasurer George W. Howard, and nephew of

Colonel D. W. H. Howard, of Winameg. He died of pneumonia, at Camp Pike, Little Rock, Ark., on January 14, 1918. Probably the first to make the supreme sacrifice on the battlefields of France was McKinley Robinson. Regarding some of Fulton County's heroes who were killed, or who died in the service, there is much biographical material available, while of others there is little or no information, unfortunately. In consequence, it will be impossible to give them the notice here that their service merits.

Charles C. Agsten, of Delta, son of John E. Agsten, was in the army in the earliest days of the war. He was a member of Company A, of the Twenty-Eighth Infantry; and was buried in France.

Harvey Brehm, son of Michael Brehm, of Fayette, died on the Field of Glory, in France.

August Becker, "a kind and loving boy," only son of Mr. and Mrs. August Becker, Sr., of Dover Township, died of pneumonia, following influenza, at Camp Sherman, Ohio, on October 9, 1918, aged 21 years. He was buried at Norwalk, Ohio. "He was a farmer lad, and had spent his life with his parents, aiding them in their farm work."

William Nicholas Bixler, son of S. H. and Lizzie Bixler, was born near Swanton, in 1890. Entering the service in 1918, he had infantry training at Fort Benjamin Harrison, Indianapolis, Indiana, and was subsequently transferred to an Artillery unit, at Camp Custer, Michigan. He had received overseas equipment and expected to sail overseas shortly, when he was stricken with influenza, which developed into pneumonia, from which he died on October 19, 1918, at Camp Custer. He was buried in Centreville Cemetery, Swanton.

Clayton O. Buehrer, son of Mrs. Conrad Ziegler, by her first marriage, was well-known and much respected in Archbold. He was mortally wounded in action in France.

Ignatius Camp, of Swanton, was probably the first in the County to die while in the service of his country in this war. He died of spinal meningitis at Camp Sherman, Chillicothe, Ohio, on November 11, 1917. Two of his brothers went to the camp immediately, and returned with his body, and funeral services were held at St. Richard's Roman Catholic Church, Swanton, "the village flag flying at half-mast in his honor." He was the son of Mr. and Mrs. John Camp, formerly of, near, Sandusky, but since 1915 of Swanton.

Edward Lane Cook was a patriot who left home and wife voluntarily to fight for his country. He crossed the seas, and his body lies in consecrated ground in France.

Clifton Curtis, of the well-known pioneer Swanton family, also lies "somewhere in France;" paying with his life some of the debt this country owed to Lafayette.

John Dale, of Fayette, died, facing the enemy in a front-line trench in France.

John DeHavens, of Delta, was also killed in action on the French front.

Vern Dickerson, son of James and Hattie Dickerson, of near Wauseon, died at the Base Hospital, Camp Sherman, Ohio, on October 9, 1918. Influenza was the cause. Vern was a worthy son; a young man "of upright life and exemplary habits." He was buried in Wauseon Cemetery.

Russell Dunn, of Fayette, husband of Mildred Dunn, died while

in training in this country, at Camp Sherman, Chillicothe, Ohio.

William E. Durant, son of Elizabeth and Elisha Durant, and husband of Opal May Emmerling, of Wauseon, went into service in August, 1918, and at the time of his death, October 15, 1918, was a member of Headquarters Company, Sixty-Seventh Field Artillery, at Camp Knox, West Point, Ky. He was buried in Wauseon Cemetery.

William Eckhart, was the son of Mr. and Mrs. Eckhart, of York township. He died in training camp, and was buried at Dutch Ridge.

Lawrence D. Elmwood was in one of the most dangerous and glorious arms of the service. He was a member of Company A., of the Fourth Auto Air Craft Battalion.

Clifford Elton, of Delta, and of a well-known family long resident in Fulton County, died while in Vancouver Barracks, Washington, an American camp. His body was brought home, and interred eventually in Raker Cemetery.

Leo E. Flory, "one of the Wauseon boys who, from the moment that the United States declared war on Germany was anxious to get into the service," died of pneumonia, at Camp Jackson, South Carolina, October 24, 1918. He volunteered for service five times, but each time was rejected. He passed the sixth examination however, and left for camp happy. He was the son of Bert and Mary Flory; was a popular student of Wauseon schools, and as a youth belonged to the Boy Scout troop. His remains were placed in the Catholic Cemetery, north of Archbold.

H. Gardner, son of Mrs. Alice Gardner, of Delta, was a member of Company E., One Hundred and Twenty-Sixth Infantry, one of the regiments early sent to France. His body lies in sacred ground in that country.

Ross Graham, a promising young mechanical engineer, for nine years connected with the Pilliod Company, at Swanton, died of spinal meningitis in France. He held a commission, in the grade of lieutenant, and "was a fine young man in every respect." He married, in 1914, Maybelle, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Frogley, of Swanton.

Clifford Gibbs, of Wauseon, son of Jay W. Gibbs, was reported "Missing in action" in France, and his father eventually received the Memorial Certificate sent from France by the French Government, for presentation to him.

George W. Hall, son of William Hall, of Lyons, was in Battery C., of the 341st Field Artillery, and was buried in France.

Homer Carl Hine, son of C. B. and Mary I. Hine, and grandson of M. N. Worley, of Clinton Township, died at Base Hospital, Camp Sherman, Ohio, October 7, 1918, aged 21 years. "He died as a soldier on duty, faithful to his country." He was "universally liked" in Wauseon. He was buried in Wauseon Cemetery, mourned by his wife, Elizabeth Shelt, of Napoleon, by his mother, Mrs. Irving Eck, of Wauseon, and by very many friends .

Walter M. Howard, of the pioneer Fulton County family, and the first Wauseon boy to succumb to the rigors of military training, had very many friends in Wauseon, and throughout the county.

George Hoover, son of J. E. Hoover, of Archbold, was one of those who helped with his body, to block the road to Paris. He was killed in action in France, and the French Government Memorial Certificate was eventually tendered to his father.

James Hurd, of Fayette, was another of those who sought to stem the tide; to stop the onward rush of the Germans toward World domination. He was killed in the attempt.

Frederick H. Kleupfel, of an Archbold family, died as the result of the rigors of military service in war time. He died after he had returned from France.

Arthur E. Knight, of Wauseon, died in France of wounds received in action. His wife proudly treasures the French Government Memorial Certificate.

Earl Kaulkins, of Fayette, died in service of his country. He was buried in Franklin Cemtery, mourned by his wife, Nellie, and many friends.

Clyde Keller, an upstanding popular boy of Wauseon, was only ninteen years old when he died at Ohio State University, in October, 1918. He had enlisted in the Student Army Training Corps, and in due course would have entered the major branch of the United States Army. He was buried in Wauseon Cemetery mourned by his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Henry Keller, and by his innumerable friends in Wauseon.

Clarence C. Lauber, of one of the earliest German Township families, was killed in action in France, where his body now lies. His brother, Christian S. Lauber was presented the French Certificate, to commemorate his brother's service to the French nation.

Ralph McLaughlin, of Archbold, died while in military service in this country.

Ray Mastin, son of John Mastin, of Fayette, died on French soil, where he was buried. His father holds the French Government Memorial Certificate.

Elmer A. Michael, son of Mr. and Mrs. Michael, of Swanton, was a member of 62nd Infantry, and was early in the service. His body lies in France, his mother, Rebecca, duly being presented with the French Government certificate written in his honor.

Herbert C. Murbach, son of Jacob R. Murbach, of Swanton, died of wounds received in action in France. He belonged to the One Hundred and First Infantry.

Lloyd Nofziger, was in the Air Service student corps and died in Washington, D. C. He was the son of Mr. and Mrs. David Nofziger, of Pettisville.

Alfonzo Pearney, of Archbold, died in the service, while stationed at Chicago, Illinois.

Arthur D. Richardson, son of Clark Richardson, of Lyons, was in Company I, of the Ninth Infantry, which saw some of the hardest fighting in France. He was first reported "Missing in Action," but subsequently found to have been killed in battle. His father holds the French Government Memorial Certificate.

McKinley Robinson, a lad scarcely eighteen years old, was one of the first Fulton County boys to volunteer. He enlisted at Toledo, Ohio, on May 12, 1917, and was assigned to the Twelfth Ambulance Company, which was one of the first American units to cross the ocean. He was serving with the 1st Division when mortally wounded by shell fire, dying on August 3, 1918. He was the son of Wallace and Jennie Robinson, the former a veteran of the Civil War. A "large concourse

of people" gathered in Monumental Park, Wauseon, on Sunday afternoon, September 2, 1918, when memorial services in his honor and memory were held.

Moses Rupp, of Archbold, and of the German Township family of that name, died of pneumonia at Camp Sherman, Chillicothe, Ohio. He was a steady young farmer, well-liked and respected and his parents, Mr. and Mrs Moses Rupp, of Burlington, were tendered sympathy from many quarters. He was buried at Lauber Hill Cemetery.

Albert Schwyn, eldest son of Mr. and Mrs. Schwyn, was born on the farm, three miles north of Swanton, on March 12, 1895. After very brief training at Camp Jackson, he was sent to France and was killed in action there, on October 30, 1918, eleven days before the close of hostilities.

Walter Sharp, only child of Mr. and Mrs. G. M. Sharp, of Wauseon, died of pneumonia at sea, on September 29, 1918, while en route to France. He was a member of Company 5, Auto Repair Corps. His body was brought back to America, and ultimately interred in Wauseon Cemetery.

Fred Seifert, of Swanton, was a corporal in the Fifth Marines, and saw service in France.

Walter D. Skeels, was a member of Company D., 308th Machine Gun Battalion, and his body now lies in France. His father is Alfred Skeels, of Wauseon.

Sheldon Skeels (or Skees), of Archbold, died of pneumonia at Camp Sherman, Chillicothe, Ohio.

Odell Stratton, of Swanton, or as he entered in official records Perry Odell Stratton, was the son of Mr. and Mrs. Elliot Stratton, former residents of South Swanton. Odell enlisted in August, 1917, in the Thirteenth Machine Gun Battalion, and was stationed at Camp Houston, San Antonio, Texas, where he died in February, 1918, of pneumonia. His body was brought to Swanton, and interred in Centreville Cemetery. Odell was the second of his family to die in the service, his brother, Cecil, having enlisted during the Spanish war, and eventually met his death in Manila.

Henry Steinbrecker, of Wauseon, was in Company C., of the Sixty-Fourth Infantry, and with that regiment went to France, where his body now lies buried. His wife, Rosa, received from the French Government, eventually a memorial certificate written in his honor and memory.

Albert A. Weckesser, son of John H. Weckesser, of Archbold, and German Township, was missing in action in France, according to the first report. Later he was reported to have died of wounds. An acknowledgment and appreciation came, ultimately, from the French Government to his father, the French Memorial Certificate commemorating fullest possible service by a stout-hearted patriot.

Frank Wright, who died at the Great Lakes Training Station, of the United States Navy, on September 29, 1918, had a somewhat unusual military career. He had enlisted in the early days of the war, had attended training camp, and had secured a commission. Later, physical disabilities brought about his discharge from the United States Army; whereupon, he enlisted in the Navy, and was undergoing a

Boy Scouts in Open Order at the Depot—soldier boys and citizens marching west, on Depot Street, Wauseon, Ohio, October 3, 1917.

naval course of training when he died. He was the son of Mr. and Mrs. George Wright, of Delta, where his remains were interred.

War Activities In Home Sector

Her soldier sons did not of course represent Fulton County's only contribution to the nation, for the purposes of the nation, in the prosecution of the war. In this World War, conducted as it was, literally by nations, not by armies only, much essential, and essentially patriotic work was possible of accomplishment by people of all ages. Within two or three weeks of the declaration of a state of war, the Ohio Council of National Defense was formed, its purpose, in particular, being to endeavor to systemize crop work, so that every possible acre of agricultural land might be cultivated, to yield abnormal quantities of foodstuffs, to stave off the threatened world famine. On April 27, 1917, the Wauseon "Republican" made public the names of the Fulton County men appointed, as Township Food and Crop Commissioners. They were: Amboy, Fred Broadbeck; Chesterfield, W. E. Patterson; Clinton, Harmon Gasche; Dover, J. L. Verity; Fulton, O. O. Walters; German, Lan. J. Wyse; Gorham, L. E. Connell; Pike, W. B. McClarren; Royalton, Albert Edgar; Swan Creek, Dell Gill; and York, E. G. Dailey; with C. H. Waid, special agent.

The war was only a few days old when the Wauseon Chapter, Daughters of American Revolution, on April 6, 1917, "voted to cooperate with the National Red Cross organziation" stating that "an effort is being made to secure a registry of women, who are ready to volunteer their services in time of emergency." A month later some active citizens began to pave the way for a campaign for funds in aid of the War Work Council of the Young Men's Christian Association, a temporary executive committee being appointed, with the following-named men as officers, C. P. Griser, chairman; J. M. Longnecker, vice chairman; F. H. Reighard, secretary; and W. H. Edgar, treasurer. On July 9, 1917, the Fulton County Chapter of the Red Cross was organized, and branches organized at Metamora, Archbold, Swanton, Delta, and Fayette, the establishment of Lyons and Winameg branches following within a week, or two, all other parts of the county coming directly under the jurisdiction of the County Chapter. Eventually there were Red Cross Auxiliary organizations formed at Tedrow, Ambrose, West Barre, Northwest York, Pettisville, and Ottokee. Meanwhile committees had been appointed to undertake the exhaustive work of bringing the Selective Service system into operation in the county. And soon came the necessity to organize the territory for the purpose of the stupendous national loans that would become necessary, as the national administration proceeded with its extraordinary and comprehensive war plans.

The home record of Fulton county during the period of national stress is one of distinct honor. It was marred by one or two regrettable incidents but, generally, the county was whole-heartedly loyal, and almost unanimous for the continuance of the war until victory had been won. As the loan campaigns proceeded, it was found that some did not measure up to the standard expected of them, and a Wauseon newspaper of May, 1918, carried an announcement, by Government representatives in Fulton county, that "a review of allotment and fin-

ancial ability of certain small subscribers to Liberty Loan" had made it necessary for them to "certify" names to the Federal Authorities, "to be placed on the Yellow Roll." In the course of a flag raising at Fayette, on April 13, 1918, it was announced that the teaching of German having been discontinued in the public schools, the books would be burned. "All the German text books were gathered and burned, on the public square" at Fayette, "signifying that henceforth America must be for Americans." Another instance of the temper of the people during that momentous time was contained in certain proceedings at the Court House, at Wauseon, on June 1, 1918, when, at a public hearing, the League of American Patriots decided to place a certain man, who had said: "Damn the Red Cross" on the "Un-American" list. When the man stated that he had offered the Executive Committee a contribution of five dollars, and a further one dollar monthly, the League decided that it could not be "a collecting agency," neither could it be "a whitewash society," averring that "it must stand for true Americanism, if it is to be of any good to the country," also that it could be "no respector of persons, but that after the names of rich or poor, high or low, who are not honestly and faithfully serving their country, in whatever capacity they are able to serve it, it must write the words: Un-American." However, there must have been an almost unanimously loyal populace in Fulton county during the years of war, for little has been published regarding denouncement proceedings by the League of American Patriots in Fulton county. The subscriptions to the various war funds demonstrate that the people, as a whole, were prepared to give "till it hurt." To the five Liberty Loans, the people of Fulton county contributed $3,575,200, that sum being represented in the 16,122 subscriptions filed. They contributed $69.811.07 to the Fulton County War Chest Fund; they bought $800,000 of War Savings Stamps; and went "well into five figures in Red Cross support." What the actual contribution to the Red Cross organization was cannot be ascertained, so much of the contribution being in kind—in the labor of love, for, and in remembrance of, the home boys who were in the field, and stood possibly in need of sweaters, helmets, mittens, and the like. Of these the home folk who labored, and gave, mention can here only be made of a few. As Judge Wolf, county chairman of the Red Cross in Fulton County, in reviewing Red Cross activities over the years 1917-18, stated:

"Hundreds of workers all over the county practically abandoned all their other duties, and gave unsparingly of their time to help win the war, and it is to be regretted that within the confines of this brief history the names of these workers and the valuable work performed by them, cannot be set forth in detail, but their reward shall be the knowledge and consciousness of duty well performed."

The statement applies to workers in all phases of war activity. The workers for the Liberty Loan campaigns were like "busy bees—in swarms," but mention here can only be made to a few of the chief executives. Wayne B. Harris, of the First National Bank, Wauseon, was the capable chairman of the Liberty Loan Committee, and the following were members of the Executive Committee: C. L. Mathews, chairman; F. H. Reighard, C. P. Grisier, R. S. Campbell, C. D. Perry, M. L. Allstetter, speakers; A. B. Eby, director of Publicity. Members

of the Publicity Committee, of which A. B. Eby was chairman, were Emil Weber, W. W. Caddell, and Chas. Prichard. Then there were town and township committees, speakers, canvassers, and supervisors, in such numbers that it would not be possible to here name them. The report covering the Second Liberty Loan campaign, October, 1917, made reference to good assistance rendered by the Boy Scout organization and the Betsy Ross Girls, of Wauseon. The Boy Scouts secured one hundred and thirty subscriptions, amounting to $36,350, and the Betsy Ross Girls fifty-six subscriptions totaling to $14,700. Among the Boy Scout workers were Charles Cole, Donald Grisier, Rolland Maddox, Louis Jodry, Niel McIntosh, Donald Porter, Lowell Perry, and John Outcalt. The Betsy Ross Girls were Dorothy Waldron, Helen Fink, Ruth Ziegler, and Eugenia Harrison. Embodied in the County Chairman's report of the Fourth Liberty Loan campaign was the following statement:

"One of the notable features of this campaign was the co-operation by the conscientious objectors. The members of the Reformed Mennonite and the Defenseless Mennonite churches contributed to the Third Liberty Loan, and at the beginning of this campaign they again asked their share. This amount was raised by solicitation by the members of the church. The Amish Mennonites, who did not accept this plan in time for the third loan were asked to raise an amount of money equal to five and one-half per cent of their assessed valuation, and this was done, satisactorily to the Committee. The amount of money contributed by the Amish Church was $98,200; the Reformed Mennonites, $1,650; and the Defenseless Mennonites, $2,600. The valuation of the members of the conscientious objectors religion in German Township represents, approximately, one-third of the valuation of the township." The tax valuation of German Township, in 1918, was a little more than five million dollars.

The Fulton County War Chest Association was under the chairmanship of Judge Fred H. Wolf, with M. E. Read, treasurer, and L. H. Deyo, secretary. Members of the Executive Committee were:

C. P. Grisier, F. H. Reighard, F. H. Wolf, L. H. Deyo, C. D. Perry, Ed. Scott, L. M. MacDonald, J. L. Socie, Fred Perry, C. A. Cole, O. C. Standish, and C. L. Mathews.

Members of the Disbursing Committee were :

H. M. Jay, Wm. Mohr, Chas. A. Hayes, Jacob Ehrat, D. B. Simpson, Jay C. Burr, D. S. Knight, Geo. K. Russell, Sam Berkebile, Frank Dielman, Geo. R. Ackerman, L. E. Connell, R. N. Belding, N. F. Carmon, Jacob Mossing, H. H. Tredway, H. F. Dimke, W. H. Standish, and D. C. DeGroat.

The War Savings Committee of Fulton County was, in 1917, under the chairmanship of Professor C. D. Perry, when strenuous work was undertaken and successfully accomplished. In 1918 R. S. Campbell was the county chairman, and Florence H. Bennett, woman's chairman. The Executive Committee, for the greater part of the time, was constituted as follows: C. L. Mathews, F. H. Reighard, C. P. Grisier, C. D. Perry, W. B. Harris, Emil Weber, and W. E. Disbrow.

The chief executives of the Fulton County chapter of the American Red Cross were, in addition to Judge Fred H. Wolf, its chairman: Mrs. W. T. Campbell, vice chairman; Davis B. Johnson, secretary. There have been two treasurers, O. C. Standish eventually resigning,

because of ill-health, whereupon Edward Scott was appointed treasurer. Other reponsible workers at County headquarters were:

Mrs. W. H. Maddox, Mrs. F. J. Spencer, Mrs. Robert Sweeney, Mrs. O. C. Standish, Mrs. Fred Croninger, Mrs. J. E. Merrill, Mrs. Sam Rowe, Mrs. Ed Scott, Mrs. Howard Lyon, Mrs. F. S. Ham, Mrs. William Domitio, Mrs. Geo. Blizzard, Mrs. C. E. Rossman, Mrs. H. J. Schlatter, Mrs. Luther Shadle, Mrs. Kolb, Mrs. Ed. Taft, Mrs. Nellie Dill, Mrs. Lindley Hann, Mrs. Chas. Humphrey, Mrs. Anna Ruppert, and Mrs. Crawford Blair.

If newspaper headlines were "conspicuous by their absence" from local papers when America went to war, they were certainly conspicuously present in the second week of November, 1918, after the signing of the Armistice, on November 11th. The front-page captions in themselves took up the space of almost a column, of the Wauseon "Republican," of November 15, 1918. Reporting local happenings of the great day when the Armistice was signed, the "Republican" stated:

"Joining with the rest of the nation in celebrating the ending of the war, the people of Fulton county set apart Monday as a great holiday. Business was suspended in every town commencing as early as nine o'clock in Metamora, and by noon every place of business in the county was closed.

"The people were wild with enthusiasm and patriotic ardor. Flags were unfurled to the breeze. and 'Old Glory' meant more than it had for half a century.

"Every town in the county held its celebration and jollification, and every road in the country lead to the nearest town that the rural population might have a part in fittingly observing the day. Country folks and town folks were all wild with enthusiasm. Bands played, cannons boomed, guns roared, and every conceivable noise was resorted to, to given vent to the pent-up enthusiasm.

"In Wauseon a great parade was given at three o'clock, all the pupils of the public schools joining."

It was a fitting climax of a glorious phase in the history of Fulton county.

During 1920, the organization of American Legion posts in Fulton county was actively pursued. Dr. William H. Maddox was appointed chairman of the American Legion Committee in Fulton county, and his work, in association with that of other energetic ex-service men, has resulted in the formation of six posts in the county. They are: The John Dale Post, No. 143, Fayette, the commander of which is Dr. Ralph Reynolds, and the adjutant, F. E. Stevens; the Robinson-Gibbs Post, No. 265, of Wauseon, Dr. C. F. Hartman, commander, and Ernest Gorsuch, adjutant; the B-L-W (or Buehrer-Lauber-Weckesser) Post, No. 311, Archbold, with Dr. C. F. Murbach, commander, and C. H. Hoffmire, adjutant; the Agsten-Elton-Eckhart Post, No. 373, of Delta, the commander of which is Dr. A. M. Wilkins; the Swanton Post, Dr. L. C. Cosgrove, commander; and the Pettisville Post, No. 1445, Pettisville. The Swanton and Pettisville Posts are still more or less in the formative stage, and full data concerning them cannot yet be recorded.

CHAPTER VI

FARM AND FARM INDUSTRIES

Fulton is distinctly an agricultural county, and as such it has a worthy place among the counties of Ohio. There was a time when hog raisers in the county could only obtain 1¼ cents a pound for pork; and to take corn to the mill for grinding cost almost as much as the corn was worth. In those days the people of the county were poor; some wore buckskin breeches, for economy's sake. Some had only wooden table knives and forks; and some would walk barefooted for miles, rather than wear out shoe leather. There is about as great a difference in the general condition, as to worldly possessions, between

Hogs once sold in Fulton County at 1¼ cents a pound.

the pioneer settlers, and their children, or their children's children, who have inherited the landed estate the pioneers hewed from the forest, or reclaimed from the swamp, as there is between the pioneer log cabin, and the fine brick farm residences one sees in so many places when passing through the county today. Fulton county is rich. Its wealth has come, too, almost wholly from industrious tillage, and the development of profitable dairy farming. Each township chapter will record all that is essential regarding its industries, but it may be said that, apart from agriculture, the county's industries are insignificant. Swanton shows indications of industrial growth; and, with improved water facilities, Wauseon might at some time in the future become

a factory town, although at present it is, in reality, a town of homes; but, viewing the county as a whole, industrial effort of consequence runs in but one direction—agriculture. The development in that direction has been very substantial, and lucrative. It is very doubtful whether the majority of the families of Fulton county would have more comfortable homes, or be possessed of a greater measure of material wealth, had the bread-winners bent their energies to other industries. The "Ohio Annual Crop Report," for 1919 is illuminative. The statistics of principal crop yield of that year in Fulton county are: Corn, 49,101 acres, 2,013,141 bushels; oats, 24,506 acres, 808,698 bushels; winter wheat, 34,207 acres, 321,545 bushels; spring wheat, 1200 acres, 20,900 bushels; buckwheat, 460 acres, 8,740 bushels; white potatoes, 1,057 acres, 52,850 bushels; tame hay, 32,063 acres, 41,300 tons.

In many cases, the yield per acre in Fulton county was above the

ONE OF THE MANY FINE FARM HOMES OF FULTON COUNTY.

average of that in other counties of Ohio; and in one instance, was much above, the potato yield in Fulton county being fifty bushels an acre, whereas the state average was 40.2 bushels.

Farming methods have undergone material change during the last fifteen years, or so, the establishment of large milk-evaporating plants within reach of Fulton county farmers having wrought a wonderful change. The editor of the Delta "Atlas" referred to it, in a special "Dairy and Farm Edition" of that paper, February 27, 1919, stating that:

"For many years prior to the establishment of the plant (that of the Helvetia Milk Condensing Company, now the main industry of Delta) Fulton county was the centre of a considerable cheese industry. Almost every township boasted its cheese factory. The factories operated only during the summer months, and were run on a co-operative plan. If the cheese-maker made a good cheese, and the market stayed up long enough to market the cheese at a profit, then

RECEIVING STATION AT THE HELVETIA MILK CONDENSING COMPANY'S PLANT AT DELTA, OHIO.

the farmer, who was not then a dairyman, would receive a chunk of dividend. If the cheese spoiled, or the market slumped, then there was no profit sharing.

"Marking the contrast between conditions then and now, a report of the Swanton Dairy Association, for May, 1903, showed as follows:

"Milk received, 196,396 pounds.

"Cheese made, 17,783 pounds.

"Cash paid to patrons, for month, $1,608.01.

"(Less than a cent a pound for the milk).

"A cow previous to 1903 was worth about $35 to $40; her calf would be worth a dollar.

"The Helvetia Milk Condensing Company, the home office of which is Highland, Illinois, selected Delta for a branch plant; on September 8, 1903, the president came, and soon afterwards a plant was established.

Upwards of $350,000, in cash, is paid each month to dairymen of Fulton county, and every day from 300,000 to 400,000 pounds of milk is produced and marketed. One of the results of the growth of the dairy business here (Delta) is seen in the handsome homes of Fulton county farmers. Fine residences, well-kept lawns, automobiles, and bulging bank accounts; the land itself, great broad acres, tiled and clean and fenced, has increased in value from $50 to $75 to a selling value of $200 to $250 an acre."

The Helvetia plant at Delta is only one of the large milk condensing plants within easy reach of Fulton county dairymen. The nationally-known Van Camp Packing Company has a large milk-evaporating plant at Wauseon, and more than 1400 dairymen are upon its Wauseon books; while the farmers of the northern townships of Fulton county carry milk daily over the county line into Michigan, where, at Morenci, is another large milk station. To be conservative, one might estimate the value of the milk product of Fulton county within recent years at three million dollars yearly. Undoubtedly, the establishment of the milk-evaporating plants has revolutionized farming in Fulton county. It has encouraged the farmers to give closer attention to stock raising,

and stock improvement. Today there is a strong dairy association in the county. The Fulton County Holstein-Friesian Association which was organized in August, 1914, with thirty-two charter members. In 1916, that association was instrumental in establishing a noteworthy precedent, exhibiting, through its members 132 head of Holstein cattle at the County Fair. Succeeding years, to the present, have brought an equally high standard of cattle exhibit at the fair, making the Fulton County Fair probably the most important, in exhibits of Holstein stock, of all the county fairs of the state. Fulton county is known throughout Ohio and neighboring states, as as area in which can be found a high grade of Holstein cattle. Forty years ago, W. H. Standish introduced the pure breed into the county, having purchased a registered bull, named Prince Edward. Other enterprising and progressive farmers in course of time became interested in the breed, and as the years passed possessed fine herds. Among the pioneer Holstein-Friesian cattle owners were Calvin Biddle, S. B. McLain, Byron Brink, L. E. Connell, H. B. Smith, and H. H. Prickett. Some Fulton County cattle have held world records, notably, Lindewood Hope, Crown Princess Maxie DeKol II, Irma Gilt Edge Queen II. These three cows had outstanding records in milk production and butter fat.

The history of the Fulton County Agriculture Society, which is such a factor in the life of the county, is extensively reviewed in the chapter, of this work, devoted to the institutional history of Fulton County. In that chapter also the growth of the granges is reviewed.

CHAPTER VII

THE SCHOOLS, 1835-1920

Some years ago, in a reminiscent article published in a local newspaper, James Grisier, of Fayette, stated that in 1844, in which year he settled in German Township, "there were not a dozen schools in the county." There were probably more than twelve, for some townships had two or three schools, if not schoolhouses, at that time. Some of the schoolhouses were frame, but most were log. The log houses cost little to erect, labor being freely given by the pioneers, and logs being readily obtainable, for the cutting. And the cost of a frame house, such as would serve the purpose of a district school, would be not more than $200. A frame schoolhouse was built for $175, in 1839, by James Dean, to supply the needs of School District No. 1 (Swanton), Wing Township, Lucas county; and School District No. 2, of Swan Creek Township, on April 23, 1843, voted, "on motion of Mr. Thresher" that "a frame schoolhouse he built, the size of the one in District No. 1, in this town, near the house of L. Dodge"; and further voted "that Two Hundred Dollars be assessed to erect said Schoolhouse," nine residents voting, six in favor of the motion. If there were, say, twenty schoolhouses in the county in 1844; if all were of frame construction; and entailed an outlay of $200 for each, the aggregate value of school property then would be $4,000. In 1919, the estimated value of Fulton county school property was $428,525. Other equally striking comparisons might be cited, but are unnecessary, for this will sufficiently indicate the degree of educational progress in Fulton county during the period of eighty-five years from 1835 to the present. And those worthy pioneers who had part in early school administration, and still live, must be pleased in realizing how substantial is the educational system that has been builded upon their own self-sacrificing pioneer efforts.

Like all pioneer efforts, the school system was brought to success only by the self-denial and resolute purpose of strong men and women. Directors, teachers, tax-payers—all who had part in the initial effort may share in the gratification. Some of them, alas, have not lived to see the culmination of their efforts, in the splendidly equipped and staffed centralized schools of today. But they will not be forgotten. The pioneer school teacher will certainly ever be remembered. He or she, in himself or herself, comprised the whole faculty of the humble uncomfortable little school; was the principal, assistant principal, teacher of all the grades down to the primary—was all in one; and often was janitor also; for which complete service, he or she would receive a dollar a day, or less. Some of the early summer-school teachers were content with a salary of one dollar a week, securing the appointment only after very careful deliberation

by the school directors, who were loath to commit the taxpayers to such a liability, without proper safeguards. An entry under date of April 28, 1849, records an agreement entered into by the directors of School District No. 4, of Fulton Township, Lucas county, and one Fanny Wood, "who made application to be employed as a school teacher, producing to the board a certificate of qualification from the school examiners of the county." It was agreed to employ her at five dollars a month, from the 7th of May, "to teach a school for the term of two months, providing she keeps a good school, if not said school is to stop," stated the record, attested by Chas. Gunn, district clerk.

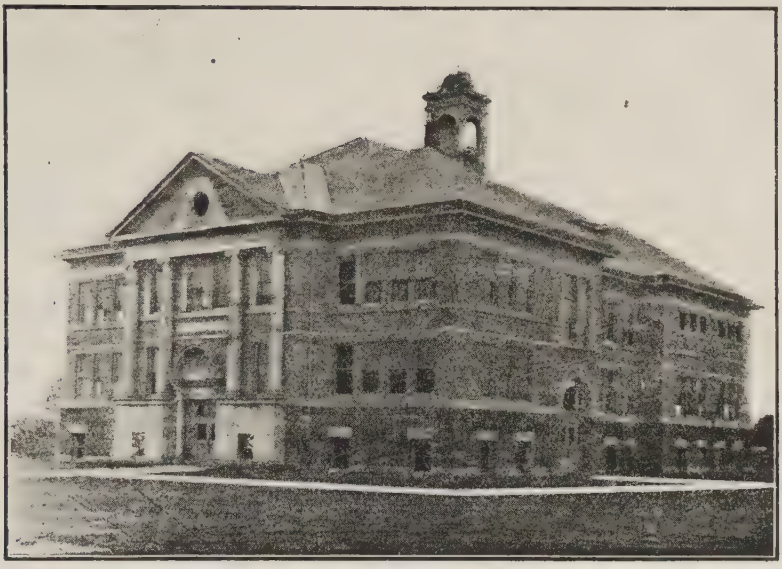
The pioneer settlers had their days filled with hard, and, generally, discouraging efforts to win even a livelihood from the swamp and forest; yet they loyally supported the school directors in their endeavor to establish satisfactory schools. The directors are deserving of special credit. Hard-working settlers as they were, and with just as many perplexities in their general life as their neighbors, they nevertheless entered thoughtfully and earnestly into educational work, some of them giving very much of their time to the work. "Jeff"

Pioneer Schoolhouse.

Lutz, who is now eighty-six years old, and was for forty years connected with the school board of Swan Creek Township, and for the greater part of that time was its president, came to Swanton, then known as Centreville, when it consisted of only three houses: that of Joe Miller; a little shoe shop; and a little shack, not more than sixteen feet by twenty, upon the site of which is now the brick structure owned by the Gordon Lumber Company. Swan Creek Township was then practically a swamp, much of it actually and wholly under water. Yet, in forty years, he and others, including "Quill" Price, members of the Templeton family, Theodore Knight, and Wesley Watkins, organized good schools in almost every four sections of the township; planted them so thickly, in fact, that at times it seemed that they were incurring unnecessary expense. In one district, No. 12, there were only three voters at the first election, and the authorities were at a loss to know how to appoint three school directors, one of the three voters, a colored man, being an ex-convict, and as such not eligible. He had been brought in by Dyer Matthews, who formerly had been a guard at the State Penitentiary. Yet those far-sighted pioneers knew that progress came by education; that education was the first essential:

and they have lived to see the tutored generation grow to useful manhood and womanhood, and take hold of the affairs of the township, better fitted than they themselves were to carry it forward to ever-increasing prosperity. In place of the frame schoolhouse that cost $175, they have lived to see in Swanton a splendid schoolhouse, valued at $43,300, adequately staffed, and affording graded and high school education to more than three hundred pupils each year; and to appreciate how great has been the educational advancement, as evidenced by the fine centralized school within a short distance of them—the Fulton Township Centralized School, at Ai, the first to be established in northwest Ohio.

A somewhat similar record could be shown in the educational development that has come to other townships, through the praiseworthy efforts of the early pioneers; and in appropriate place in the



SWANTON SCHOOLHOUSE, VALUED AT $43,300.

township chapters will be found as complete a review of the school history as it has been possible to gather. In the various sectional reviews will be found many descriptions of the early log schoolhouses, but perhaps it might not be inappropriate to here give Historian Aldrich's description of one, presumably in Fulton Township:

"It was.....finished and furnished without taxing the land—all contributed. It was chinked and plastered with mud from the adjoining soil. It had a fireplace made of clay, and sticks built up, 'cob-house style,' and cropping up just above the ridge of the roof, and plastered upon the inside with clay mortar. This formed a safe as well as a comfortable heating apparatus. The seats were made of logs, about ten inches in diameter, and ten or twelve feet in length; and split into halves and hewed, to smooth them upon the split side. They were then mounted, the split side up, on wooden pegs of proper height

for the scholars. For writing desks they bored holes into the logs, about three feet from the floor, into which they drove pins, projecting in the room far enough to support a board, or slab, placed on the pins. For windows they would cut out one log the whole length of the building, and stop the opening with oiled paper. This would admit light, and keep out the cold. Some were finished with glass, 7 by 9, and when this schoolhouse was completed, with a good fire nearly the entire length of one end of the building, it furnished a good and comfortable institution for training the young minds."

Interesting and illuminative, as to early school conditons, is "A Book of Records, for School District No. (apparently for more than one district, three being crossed out) Four, in the Township of Swan Creek, Lucas county, Ohio," covering the period 1838-1886. The first entry records the meeting, on July 28, 1838, at the house of Hiram Clark, of the directors, of District No. 3, George Black, Charles Gunn, and Hiram Clark, appointed "for the ensewing year" by the town clerk. The directors "organized according to law," and voted "that a site for a Schoolhouse in said district be as near a geographical Center as Suitable Ground Could be had." On August 7th, at 8 A. M., the board of directors met and "proceeded to view the ground, and stuck a stake for said site on a piece of ground near the quarter post on the north line of Section Five, Township Seven." On November 24, 1838, householders met, according to appointment, "for the purpose of building a Schoolhouse," and Commenced Chopping the logs." On the "29 of Nov. the district met and raised a Schoolhouse."

The next entry in the book records a meeting, at the house of George Black, of the "householders of School District No. 3, Swan Creek, Lucas County," who voted "that we have three month School. to commence during the month of August next, to be taught by a female." Whether school was held in August of 1839 cannot be determined. Later it was the practice of the clerk to enter in the book the name of teacher and the amount paid, or agreed to be paid, the teacher for his, or her, services. The first such entry was under date of December 2, 1840, the record stating that "Gideon W. Raymon(d) was employed to teach school for three months, in District No. 3. for forty-five Dollars." This, after meeting of November 14th had passed a resolution "that the school be kept three months the ensuing winter by a male teacher," another motion providing "that the windows be furnished with glass." Apparently, if school was held during the previous year, the window spaces were open, or were covered with oil paper.

During the winter of 1841, Harriet O'Brien opened the school on November 15th, for three months, the directors agreeing to pay her $1.50 a week. Part of her term, because of sickness, was taken by Miss Huldah Merrill. The financial statement for that year showed:

Public money received	$15.84
Money collected from the district	2.16
	$18.00

which is somewhat less than would be necessary to cover the require-

ments of even a small school district of today, small as is the remuneration of present-day teachers.

The $200 necessary to meet the cost of erection of new frame schoolhouse, which the housesholders of the district resolved, on April 23, 1843, to be caused to be built, was to be raised by assessment, collectable on November 15, 1843. This apparently was not accomplished, for it was not until 1846 that the contractor was paid, an entry March 18, 1846, reading: "This day Settled with Bradly Wood, & paid him fifty-one dollars, by giving order on the treasurer, which being all that remained his due for building School house."

On October 20, 1844, B. Wood "was employed as School teacher two months at $12.50 per month." A summer school was conducted in 1845 by Mary M. Barnett, a certificated teacher, who taught for three months, from April 21st, at a weekly salary of $1.25. Charles Thompson taught the winter school of that year for $12 a month. Jane (or James) Templeton taught the summer school of 1846; and on September 16th the directors met, and resolved "that a tax of sixteen dollars be levied for the purpose of paying the District debt, and repairs and furnishing the schoolhouse." On May 3rd of the next year, the directors resolved "to call for an abstract, and collect the tax of Sixteen Dollars." Pay of teacher, Bethulia Day, properly certificated, for the winter term of three months, 1849-50, cost the district, in all, $18, which was paid to her at the end of the school term.

Forty-four students were enrolled for the summer school of 1851, taught by Hannah Morel (or Merel, maybe Merrill). J. W. Taft conducted the winter school of 1851-52, in District No. 4, which apparently served District No. 3 also, for a monthly salary of sixteen dollars. At the end of the term, he was "paid $29.96 cents out of District No. 4. and $18.04 cents out of District No. 3"; and his quarterly report, "ending with the sixth day of March, 1852" showed that "the hole number of schoollars enroled for the Quarter was thirty fur male and twenty females," of whom nine females and eleven males were from District No. 3. The report further stated that "The branches taught were Reading, Spelling, Writing, Geography, Grammar, and Arithmatick."

There were eight voters, at the school board election in District No. 4, Fulton Township, April 12, 1852.

One entry in 1852 reads:

"A Contract between Teacher and Directors. it is agreed between Thomas Martin and Benjamin Fleming, School Directors in District No. 4, Fulton Township, Ohio, and Esther Merrill Teacher in said District that the said Directors Shall pay to the said Teacher the sum of (14) fourteen shillings a week for the term of twelve weeks."

In the abnormal times during and immediately succeeding the Civil war, when prices and costs advanced almost beyond credence, the school directors were careful in the placing of contracts. Lisa Lucas taught the winter school of 1864, the directors to secure her services being forced to agree to pay her a salary of one dollar a day, she meeting them to the extent of agreeing, states the record, "to stop any time we think she dont earn her money." A somewhat similar understanding was that of April 11, 1865, when Miss Mary Fraker was "hired to teach a common school, in Dist. No. 4.....for three

dollars per week, subject to quit the schooll at any time she dont give satisfaction.....She teaches twenty-two days for a month."

In the early years, the heating of the school was borne by the householders, who were expected to contribute wood in proportion to the number of children sent for tuition. What that contribution should be was decided by the school directors on April 14, 1851, when they resolved "that a quarter of a cord of wood, or twelve and a half cents to the scholar" be assessed householders, the amount presumably covering one winter term of school. This practice seems to have been discontinued, for the book records that, on November 26, 1864, the directors met "for the purpose of selling wood for school purpose," the entry stating that "John Watkins being the lowest bidder at one dollar & 23 cts per cord is to get ten cords of wood at a cost of $12.30." It is clear, however, that the directors met to buy wood, not to sell it, for on March 18, 1865, John Wesley Watkins was paid $12.33 "for ten cords of wood." In 1867, the directors bought wood for the school

FAYETTE HIGH SCHOOL, FORMERLY FAYETTE NORMAL UNIVERSITY BUILDING.

at $1.19 a cord; in 1868 at $1.14; in 1871 at $1.00; in 1873 at 87 cents; in 1877 at 75 cents; and in 1879 at 60 cents, which is the lowest rate recorded.

Quite a story precedes the ultimate purchase of a stove for the school. Probably, there was an open fireplace in the log schoolhouse, but evidently a stove must have been lent, for "a meeting of the voters .....held pursuant to Law and public notice, at the house of Hiram Clark" on September 15, 1843, had to consider compensation that should be paid to the owner of stove, for damage done to it. It was resolved "that a tax of three Dollars be levied on the district and collected, for the purpose of paying George Black for the damage on his stove in the old schoolhouse." Next, came an entry: "January 20, 1845, School District No. 2, Dr. to Charles Gunn, for drawing and setting the stove up in the Schoolhouse, thirty-seven cents." Having a new frame schoolhouse, the school directors apparently soon became

of the opinion that they might legitimately expect the householders to agree to the expending of the sum necessary to provide the school with a stove of its own. Therefore, a special meeting of the voters was called, and in due course, on March 8, 1845, they met at the schoolhouse. Isaac Day, states the minute, "Submitted the following resolution for a tax of fifty Dollars, on putting the vote it was Carried.....five voting for the tax and three against it.....Said tax to be levied for the purpose of paying for a Stove and pipe, and School Directors, and brick for a hearth, a well & Cobbles." Another meeting of the voters was held soon afterwards, on April 10, 1845, at which meeting it was decided "by a unanamos vote" to rescind the vote taken on the 8th of March, 1845, for a "fifty dollar tax," which was declared to be illegal; which decision ended for some years the chance of the school possessing a stove of its own. However on April 14, 1851, the subject was again broached at a meeting of directors, and Charles Gunn, district clerk, recorded the following in the minutes of the meeting:

"James Watkins submitted the following resolution that a tax of ten dollars be leved to purchase a stove and other nesaserses for the School house and was carried by a unanamous vote."

Again, however, the directors were to be disappointed, for across that minute the incoming chairman of the board, in the following month wrote, in a bold hand, "illegal procedings on the 14 of April 1851." However, such a state of affairs could not continue for long, and at a special meeting of the voters, held on the 19th of May, of that year, "thare wase a tax voted of Seventeen dollars, for the purpose of bying a Stove and brick for a hearth, bucket, and dipper & repairs for the Schoolhouse, and other purposes." The end of the story came on "November 22, A. D. 1851" when "An order ishued for twelve dollars, for to get a stove by William Critzer and James Watkins. Signed by me, John Watkins, Clark, and handed to Thomas Martin and William Critzer to purchase the stove, and they said they paid ten dollars for the stove." So that instead of paying fifty dollars, they eventually purchased one for ten, and, during the years of negotiation, apparently had the free use of a stove of fairly presentable appearance.

Conditions in general seemed to be getting back to normal in the '70s, for there is one entry recording the hiring of one teacher, Martha Herrick, "to teach summer school, for three months, at $18, and board herself." Formerly, the teachers used to "board around"; e. g., would stay a week or two in the home of one householder, a week or two in another, and so on until the end of the term, the householders giving the pedagogue free board and lodging.

One final extract from the book. In 1878, the schoolhouse underwent repairs, apparently somewhat extensive interior repairs. Yet, the cost of window lights, door lock, paint brushes, lath, digging and hauling two loads of sand, four barrels of lime, and the labor of four men, painting, plastering and what not, for three days, totalled only to $23.08.

It will therefore be seen, in a reading of the foregoing excerpts from the actual record of a school district of Fulton county, how economically the early school administrators sought to carry on the school

development. Economy was necessary. Schools also were necessary, indeed vital. And the directors, although some were men of little academic knowledge, were earnest and determined to build the school system safely. And although this particular book, because of its accessibility, has been reviewed somewhat extensively, a similar history probably could be written of the pioneer period of most of the school districts of the county. Reference to individual districts will have appropriate place in the township chapters; consequently it will suffice here to give only the general history of the school system.

A graphic picture of early school life, at least of one of its phases, is seen in some reminiscent verse, entitled "Old Times in Ottokee," contributed to one of the local papers, in June, 1913, by "Rock" Handy Rice, a well-known and popular member of an old Fulton county family. In part, the rhyme reads:

"Of course there was the old schoolhouse—I will
use that as a starter—
Presided o'er with dignity, by the then
Miss Julia Carter;
Let me right here record a scene, which happened
at that time;
It should be told in terms of grief, and not in
jingling rhyme.
First, spelling class were up in line—toes even
with a crack,
When a mysterious sound was heard, at the poor
teacher's back.
A sudden turn revealed the truth (it often happens
so)
She caught Rock Handy in the act of spitting
at George Monroe:
'Just take your place upon that desk, and stand
with folded arms'
Came forth the words from Julia, in tones like
war's alarms;
And then she brought a hickory switch, and,
calling for my hand,
She played a tune upon it—the tune would
beat the band.
Back to the class again she turned, I will ne'er
forget the day
When I stood upon that darned old desk—Mad!
Not a word dare say;
And the worst of all came after, ere I had a chance
to dodge:
'Roxea Handy's laughing' spake out Cordelia
Hodge.
Again the switch was brought in play, this time
with warmer sting.
And even now, at this late day, its echo seems
to ring.

The old schoolhouse, with its two rooms, through
some unlucky stroke,
Caught fire in an unknown way, and all went up
in smoke."

Human nature was very much the same then as now, only in the Fulton county schools of today the teacher may not use the switch.

The first school to be established in Fulton county was probably that organized in Pike Township, in 1835. In "Pioneer Days in Pike Township," Mrs. Agnes Howard McClarren, of Winameg, states: "The first school was taught in 1835. in a log hut located on the Silsby farm, by Elizabeth Trowbridge, who afterwards became the wife of William Fewless. She is remembered as a woman of strong character. She believed in social advancement, and the influence of religious living. The schoolhouse was later removed to where the Salis-

THE AMPLE PLAYGROUND OF WAUSEON GRADED SCHOOL.

bury Cemetery now is, afterwards returned to Thomas Silsby's Corners, where it now remains under the name of "Pike Centre School." Other townships quickly followed, organizing school districts almost simultaneously with the organization of the township. In the '40s and '50s, schoolhouses were abundant; seemed to blossom wherever a little community had taken root. And in later years, it seemed to those connected with the school system that such multiplication of schools was not only an extravagance, but a detriment. The early directors were however governed by the general conditions of the time, the most important factor in determining their policy being the manner and means of travel. In a practically roadless country, even adults did not care to go far from home. As the years passed, and conditions of travel improved, the school directors seemed to veer gradually to consolidation of schools. J. W. Roseborough, writing in 1876, stated:

"The evil of an excessive multiplication of school districts has been abundantly exemplified in this (German) township. In 1862 we had no less than eighteen school districts, and resolved to.....reduce the number. Instead of eighteen, we now have eleven sub-districts.....; so that in the matter of schoolhouses we have saved at least $5,000 .....Instead of eighteen teachers we now need but eleven, a saving every year.....of $1,000.....Instead of little 8x10 rickety wooden shanties heretofore built, we are now able and do erect large commodious and substantial brick houses. In room of niggardly house sites of 30 by 40 feet, we now have a full acre of land to each house, furnishing a site and also a safe and ample playground. Instead of being pushed for means, as formerly, to keep up sixteen or eighteen schools for six months, we now have money, plenty when judiciously used, for from seven to nine months of live vigorous teaching."

J. W. Roseborough, himself a teacher in early manhood and throughout his life an interested and strong advocate of better schools, would surely have been pleased had he lived to see the fine centralized schools of Fulton and Chesterfield Township, a change in school policy developed to some extent by the incessant agitation of such men as he, who constantly used the columns of local papers to further the thought. The editor of the "Fulton County Tribune" wrote, on January 8, 1904: "For a number of years the most ardent friends of the country schools have been advising that the schools of a township be conducted in one building, erected near the center of the township."

The beginning of centralization in Fulton county, and indeed in the whole of northwestern Ohio, may be attributed to the defection of the teacher in charge of the school in District No. 3, of Fulton Township, in the spring of 1903. He resigned about two months before the end of the school term. Centralization had been theoretically agitated for many years, but the action of the teacher referred to brought the question before the directors of Fulton Township schools for immediate and practical decision. They decided to arrange for the transportation of pupils of No. 3 District school to that of District No. 2, at Ai, each morning, and return them to their homes each night. It was a success, and in the following year the pupils of District No. 8 were also conveyed to and from the Ai school. Eventually came complete centralization of schools in that township, and the building of the present splendid schoolhouse at Ai.

What a striking contrast is that represented by the log schoolhouse of the '30s and '40s, and the massive centralized schoolhouse of today. Maybe, the contrast between the teachers of today and those of the early days would not be so striking. There were many indifferent and incapable teachers in the early days; but some of the teachers were brilliant. A. Holmes Smith, of Delta, one of the earliest and most capable school examiners of Fulton county, and for fifty years connected with the Board of Education, as teacher, examiner, and director, stated that he found many quite brilliant, while others had little knowledge of arithmetic, other than mental. In the '50s there was a general re-examination of teachers, and only the most capable were retained. The Fulton County Board of Education sought to radically raise the standard of education, and candidates for teaching certificates were subjected to much more rigid tests than formerly. Higher sal

aries were offered, and this policy brought in many teachers from adjoining counties. Teachers came from Oberlin, Norwalk, Adrian, and other places, and generally those who failed to pass the examiners went into Henry county, stated Mr. Holmes Smith. A teachers' institute was organized in 1857, and among the questions put by examiners to candidates for teaching certificates was: "Do you attend the Teachers' Institute meetings?" Applicants soon became of the opinion that attendance at the Institute meetings was an essential to the granting of certificate, consequently, the Teacher's Institute soon became a strong organization. It apparently had its inception in a meeting held on July 25, 1857. "to organize a teachers' association in Fulton county." The first officers were: M. H. Butler, president; Amos Hilton, vice president; J. Brewster, secretary.

Among the early school teachers, who gave faithful and generally good service for little pay, must be included:

Samuel Durgin, Naaman S. Merrill, Gideon W. Raymond, Sa-

PUBLIC SCHOOL, DELTA.

mantha Crandall, Flavel Butler, Laura Ranger, Samuel B. Darby, Melvina Howe, Elizabeth Trowbridge, Erastus Briggs, Julia Chamberlin, Caroline Wood, Moses Curtis, Hartley Clute, Jonathan Long, Jonathan Hunt, Augustus Porter, Mary Ann Stevenson, Olive Green, Mortimer Hibbard, Maria Lloyd, Lucinda Rogers, Elizabeth Freeman, O. B. Verity, Albert S. Fleet, Cornelia Ives, Thomas R. Williams, Michael Handy, Gamaliel Barnes, Amanda Pease, Mary Clough, Lidea Gorsuch, Zerada Leggett, John Deming, Hannah Comstock, John Spillane, Ella Jewell, Libbie Lyon, Nellie Bickford, Emma Davis, Addie DeMeritt, Phoebe Riddle, Sophronia Fluhart, Mrs. Pray, Mrs. Zimmerman, Garret Van Fleet, Lewis S. Hackett, Margaret Fullerton, Martin H. Butler, Joseph Aldrich, Mrs. Curtis, Lucy Crawford, "Rock" Williams, Capt. W. F. Williams, "Aunt Jane" Lutz, Thomas Harvey, —— De Wolf, James Burroughs, William Cowan, the Demaresq sisters—Henrietta, Jenette, Mary, and Kate,—Amos Hilton, Joseph Jewell, Ben Bulger, Elizabeth Cole, Emma Springer, Betty Fleming, William Fraker, Gilbert Clark, Lorenzo Bennett, Ruthett Deblin,

Lemuel Johnson, M. McCoy, F. F. Curtis, William Lewis, Lydia Sanford Daniels, Julia Root Rich, Ann Whittaker, Libbie Roos Haley, Minerva Cottrell, J. B. Lutes, Catherine Fairfield.

Some will have reference elsewhere in this work, and the record of others will be found creditable in other county publications. A few have had especially distinctive careers, or especially long connection with the Fulton county educational system. Samuel Durgin was one of the first school examiners; so also was Martin H. Butler. Thomas Harvey and De Wolf both became state school commissioners. Joseph Aldrich was an early school examiner. "Aunt Jane" Lutz was known from one end of Swan Creek to the other; was wont to pass from house to house, when whole families would be stricken with ague and fever. She would cook, wash, and attend to the personal and domestic affairs of one stricken household, nursing and feeding them; and then pass on to the next home; all out of whole-hearted love and affection for her neighbors. Michael Handy and O. B. Verity became prominent members of the Fulton county legal bar. Addie DeMeritt was a teacher for more than thirty years; Mrs. Phoebe Riddle taught for practically a generation; Jonathan Hunt, of Swan Creek, was one of the most advanced teachers of his time; and many others might be mentioned. William B. ("Bill") Cowan, of Pike Township, and James F. ("Jim") Burroughs, of Royalton, both excellent teachers, were much sought after by the directors of certain school districts in their active days. James F. Burroughs taught fifty-nine winter terms of school in Fulton and Lucas counties, and generally passed the summer months in farming. "Bill" Cowan, in his day, was one of the ablest educators in the county; a remarkable man, in fact, stated Holmes Smith, the school examiner, adding that Cowan was "quite a mathematician." Mr. Smith recollects that Cowan once told him that he had had very little schooling; had had practically no academic training, and had spent most of his early life in farming; yet, he was destined to teach school for fifty-four terms, and to conduct a summer school for teachers with such success that he became the mentor and tutor of some of the most capable teachers of Fulton county. Of the students who attended his short normal course 187 became teachers. Mr. Cowan died in 1913, and as there is nothing in permanent biographical record regarding him, it might not be inappropriate to here briefly cover the deficiency, culling the material from an article which appeared in the "Fulton County Tribune," December 21, 1906. From it, we gather that he was born in 1827, that, in his own words:

"The first school I attended was held in a salt box. The merchants had large boxes in which to store salt during the summer months, and in the winter they were empty; and as those early settlers had no money to furnish a building, or time to erect one, they were very glad to use these large boxes.....I did not start school until I was eight years old. From the time I was twelve years old, until I was seventeen, I had but nineteen days of schooling in any one year; but every night you would find me in a corner, near the fireplace, working over my books with the best teacher at my side—my mother.....When I was seventeen, I entered Milan Seminary .....for seven months, and then my schooling ended. Ended, yet only begun."

He taught for several years in the schools of his home county, and when, in 1852, he purchased some land in Pike Township, Fulton county, and found farming hard and precarious, he thought again of teaching. He said:

"In the winter of 1854, I taught my first term of school in this county. My first term of school was successful, and after that it was a matter for me to decide which school I would teach in. Two districts in Pike Township were determined to have me teach, and year after year they would overbid each other, until they were paying me fifty-two or fifty-three dollars per month, when I told them they had gone high enough, and to settle the matter I would teach five years in one district, and then five years in the other. This arrangement seemed to be satisfactory, and I followed it until I quit teaching. I taught twelve winter terms in one district, and thirteen in the other."

"Bill" Cowan was a man of strong character, frank and emphatic in expression, and quick in decision. He had very many friends throughout the county.

WAUSEON HIGH SCHOOL.

So as not to duplicate school history reviewed in the township chapters, this chapter will end with a brief statement of the school system, as now constituted in Fulton county. The re-districting of Fulton county schools, under the new school code of 1914, when the township schools came more directly under county control, is a step toward centralization; and the Fulton County Board of Education hopes to bring such a plan gradually into effect. Under the new code, Professor Biery, superintendent of Wauseon schools, became the county superintendent of schools in 1914, but after he had resigned in 1915, to accept a professorship in a leading college, Professor C. D. Perry was appointed, and is still county superintendent. He has had a distinguished career as an educator in Fulton county, and was recently elected president of the Northwestern Ohio Teachers' Association. His assistants are: E. F. Chase, who is superintendent of the northern

half of the county, termed the Supervision District No. 1; and H. M. Jay, superintendent of the southern half, called Supervision District No. 2. The present Board of Examiners is made up as follows: H. M. Jay, president; C. C. Smith, vice president; C. D. Perry, clerk. The present members of the Fulton County Board of Education are: C. K. Miller, Fayette; W. L. Biddle, Wauseon; W. B. McClarren, Delta; W. C. Hoch, Delta; and W. J. Weber, of Pettisville, who is president. There are twenty-four district boards, information regarding which will be found in township chapters.

According to "The Annual Statistical Report" of the county superintendent, for the year 1919, the Fulton County Board of Education then controlled eighty-three one-room elementary schools, and three two-room elementary schools; and in addition eight larger elementary and first grade high schools.

There were, in 1919, seventeen rural school districts in the county, seven village districts, and two supervision districts in addition to the two centralized districts, Fulton and Chesterfield.

Under ordinary conditions, the school year is divided into two terms, affording, in all, eight months of tuition in the country schools, and nine months in the village schools.

Enrollment figures for 1919 are: 2,252 boys and 2,186 girls in elementary grades; and 347 male and 435 female students in the high schools. In 1919, there were 123 high school graduates, and 328 eighth-grade graduates.

In that year, the high school staffs consisted of sixteen male and twenty-three female teachers, thirty-five of whom had graduated from college or university, and two had had partial college courses. Three teachers were graduates of a four-year normal course; two of a two-year normal; and the others were graduates of high school course. The salaries paid to teachers of township high schools, in 1919, averaged $872. In the village high schools, the average was $945.

The elementary schools of the county were, in 1919, staffed by four male and 136 female teachers. Of that number, one was a college graduate, three had attended college but had not graduated, 118 had had partial normal school training, twelve were graduates of a four-year and six graduates of a two-year normal course. With one exception, all teachers employed had graduated from high school Salaries paid to elementary rural school teachers averaged, in 1919: $720. Teachers in the village elementary schools were paid an average of $738. At these rates it is becoming increasingly difficult to get the services of teachers of the standard demanded.

CHAPTER VIII

THE BANKS OF FULTON COUNTY

In the earliest days of the county, banks "sprang up like mushrooms," stated "Charley" Cornell. "Anybody, who felt that way inclined could start a bank. But they didn't last long, and people got into the habit of banking in their own pockets what little money they could accumulate." Paper was not then as stable as it is today. Pioneer Fulton county men who helped to build the railroad through the county in 1854 had to take their pay in Kalamazoo notes. These they were generally able to pass in trade, but the notes were not good and acceptable tender in payment of taxes.

Nothing is on record regarding these early banks, because they were of little consequence, and generally of brief history. Indeed, until the last decade of the nineteenth century, the only two banks of any importance in Fulton county were Barber's Bank of Wauseon, and the Bank of Fayette. The first-named was established in 1863, and the Fayette Bank in about 1871.

The Bank of Wauseon began to do business in a small frame building, on the east side of Fulton street south of the railroad, on February 1, 1863. It was founded by Epaphras L. Barber. Naaman Merrill later became a partner, the firm then trading as Barber and Merrill, until 1879, when E. S. Callender became a partner. In that year Naaman Merrill died. A commodious bank building was erected in 1871, on the east side of Fulton street, north of the railroad, and there for very many years the bank headquarters were. In July of 1907 the Bank of Wauseon was reconstructed, taking corporate powers, under the name of the Wauseon Savings and Trust Company, with a capital of $50,000. The partners of the old bank were: E. L. Barber, son of Col. Epaphras L. Barber; H. A. Barber; Sophy H. Barber, and Addie L. Barber. These members of the pioneer Wauseon family, together with W. T. Hudson, were the stockholders and directors of the new bank, E. L. Barber being president, and W. T. Hudson, cashier. The new bank, however, was destined to have a very short life. On April 21, 1908, the doors were closed, temporarily it was stated, Mr. E. L. Barber then making a statement, which read as follows:

"The Bank of Wauseon was a partnership composed of E. L. Barber, H. A. Barber, Addie L. Barber, and Sophy H. Barber, and had been engaged in banking in Wauseon for many years. Last July there was incorporated the Wauseon Savings and Trust Company, under the laws of the State of Ohio, with a capital stock of $50,000, for the purpose of taking over the banking business of the Bank of Wauseon; and this has been gradually carried on so that at the present time practically all of the banking business is now in the corporation.

The present corporation has securities and assets representing every dollar of deposits, and the issued capital stock. If the securities and assets are not sold at forced sale, and a fair valuation is realized upon them, there will be ample to pay all of the depositors in full.

The annual demands upon the bank for money at this time made it necessary for it to either sacrifice its securities, at less than their value, and thus cause an unnecessary loss to its depositors and stockholders, or to place its affairs in the hands of a competent receiver, who could properly preserve and administer the assets in such a way as to realize their reasonable value. The present action was therefore determined upon, and Mr. George W. Close, a banker, and a man of wide experience and acknowledged ability was appointed by Judge Taylor as Receiver of the Wauseon Savings & Trust Company, and gave bond in the sum of $100,000; and the Hon. H. C. Rorick, who has had large experience in financial matters, and is well and favorably known, was appointed by Judge Taylor as Receiver of the Bank of Wauseon, and gave a $50,000 bond. The appointment of these two men by Judge Taylor assures depositors that the affairs of the bank will be honestly and capably administrated."

The efforts of the receivers were however unavailing, for the depositors lost heavily eventually.

The Bank of Fayette, the other of the two pioneer banks was finally liquidated, but not however to the loss of depositors. It was founded in about the same year (1871) in which Fayette became a railroad town, George E. Letcher, who had built a grain house in Fayette and had "made Fayette one of the best grain markets in northwestern Ohio" was the owner of the bank until 1885, when he sold to Arthur and C. L. Allen and J. Trowbridge, who conducted the business, as a private company, until 1913, when they decided to go out of business, which they did, in September of that year closing the bank, "after twenty-seven years of satisfaction to all its patrons."

So, in brief, is the history of the two pioneer banks of Fulton county. The county has many stable banks today, and an attempt will be made to separately and adequately review, in this chapter, each existing bank. There are thirteen, Archbold, Delta, Fayette, Metamora, and Wauseon each having two, and Lyons, Pettisville, and Swanton one. Somewhat extensive reference will be made in volume two of this work to the lives of some of the prominent Fulton county bankers of today; therefore, in biographical reference, this chapter will deal only with deceased bankers.

Colonel Epaphras L. Barber, who died in 1899, was of course the pioneer banker of Fulton county, and he died many years before the bank he founded closed its doors. His life will however be reviewed in an even more appropriate chapter, in that which traces the development of Wauseon, of which he was one of the original proprietors.

Naaman Merrill's life will also be reviewed elsewhere. He was one of the pioneer school teachers; was clerk of the courts in 1853; and from being a leading democrat he became an active republican, when that party superseded the whig party in the '50s.

Arthur Allen was one of the leading business men of Fayette, to

which he came in 1865. He held many township offices, and was justice of the peace for many years.

The Rorick family has had prominent connection with Fulton county banking, especially with the banks of Fayette. Cosper Rorick, who died in 1911, may be considered to have been the founder of the Fayette State Savings Bank. His home was in Morenci, but he was well-known throughout Fulton county, and, as an obituary stated "a figure familiar in the community for over a half century has been laid to rest, and the citizens mourn the loss of an honorable upright fellow-citizen, and big-hearted friend."

Charles C. Greenleaf, one of the founders of the Peoples State Bank of Wauseon, was connected with Fulton county banking for twenty years. He died in 1910. Mr. Greenleaf was one of the leading financiers of the county, successful in business, and esteemed for his steady purpose in life.

PEOPLES STATE BANK, WAUSEON.

George S. Clement, partner with Mr. Greenleaf in the milling business they conducted together in Wauseon for very many years, was also one of the organizers of the Peoples State Bank, in 1889, and a director until his death, in 1912. He was "well known.....as a man of great probity of character, and one who was trusted implicitly by all."

Another original director of the Peoples' Bank, Hiram Pritchard, died in 1912. He had lived in Wauseon for almost fifty years, and for many years was partner with F. R. Smallman in the Smallman Grocery. Previously, he had been a building contractor, and in 1864 built the courthouse in Ottokee.

L. P. Vernier, one of the founders of the Peoples State Bank of Archbold, and its first president, was the head of one of the pioneer

families of German Township. He was one of the most progressive merchants of Archbold.

There was a bank in Delta as early as 1869. It was called the Bank of Delta, and Dr. William Ramsey, whose life will be reviewed in the medical chapter, was the sole owner of it.

Dealing with direct institutional history, the banks at present (1920) in operation in Fulton county are: the Farmers and Merchants Bank, and the Peoples State Bank, both of Archbold; the Peoples Savings Bank, and the Farmers State Bank, both of Delta: the Fayette State and the Farmers State Banks, of Fayette; the Lyons Commercial Bank, of Lyons; the Farmers and Merchants and the Home Savings Banks of Metamora; the Pettisville Savings Bank, of Pettisville; the Farmers and Merchants Deposit Company, of Swanton; and the two banks of the county seat, the Peoples State and First National Banks, of Wauseon. The banks all appear to be doing satisfactory business, and to have the confidence of its depositors: and the history of the respective banks is worthy of place in this county record.

The oldest of the banks now in operation is the Peoples State Bank, of Wauseon. Its history dates back to 1889, and from an original capital of $15,000 to a combined capital and surplus of $120,000, and resources of more than one million eight hundred thousand dollars. Reviewing its more than thirty years of operation and progress, it appears that early in 1889 a partnership was formed by George D. Green, Charles C. Greenleaf, William H. Eager, George S. Clement, Hiram Pritchard, and Frank Smallman, all active business men of Wauseon. The partnership took the trading name of the Peoples Bank, and on December 10, 1889, having erected a suitable building, on the east side of Fulton street and almost opposite the present location of the bank, it was opened, and from that time until December of 1906 did an ever-increasing banking business, as a private institution. In December, 1906, it was incorporated under the banking laws of Ohio as the Peoples State Bank, and began business as a corporate body on January 2, 1907. In 1910 its capital was increased to $100,000. In May, 1913, the bank decided to build a larger bank building, and with that object purchased the old Eager House, and the work of removing the old building was immediately begun. In due course the magnificent modern bank building of brick and Bedford stone became the place of business of the banking corporation, which has since steadily continued to prosper. Its growth may be realized by figures culled from its official records. Its resources on June 30, 1890, totalled to $129,481.89; in 1900 to $375,339.03; in 1910 to $748,131.54; and in 1920 to $1,831,484.58.

It is somewhat remarkable that for a period of twenty-one years there was no change in the directorate of this bank. The first change came when Mr. Charles C. Greenleaf died on April 4, 1910; deaths of Hiram Pritchard and George S. Clement, in 1912, brought further changes in the board, which as now constituted is made up as follows: W. H. Eager, president; F. R. Smallman, vice president; C. D. Greenleaf, G. D. Green, L. H. Deyo, and C. P. Grisier. Mr. Eager has been president of the bank since its establishment, in 1889; and Charles W.

Struble has been cashier since 1890, thirty years of faithful, valued, and valuable service.

The next bank to be established was the Farmers and Merchants State Bank, of Archbold, which was organized, as a private partnership, in 1897, by J. O. Swisher, Jacob Ehrat, Jr., C. M. McLaughlin, A. J. Vernier, L. D. Gottshall, and I. W. Gottshall. The bank was re-organized in 1919, when it became the Farmers and Merchants State Bank, with a capital of $50,000. The bank ownership however has remained unchanged since its first establishment, the same six co-partners being its present stockholders. Under its re-organization in 1919 the following named men became its officers: J. O. Swisher, president; C. M. McLaughlin, vice president; A. J. Stamm, cashier. The "Report of the Condition" of the bank at the close of business May 4, 1920 showed its resources to have then been $470,-231.29; capital stock, paid in, $50,000; surplus, $1,600. The institution does its business in its own modern bank building, on the corner of Main and Depot streets. The building was erected in 1909, at a cost of about $5,000.

The Farmers State Savings Bank, under its former name, the Farmers National Bank, of Delta, first opened for business on September 13, 1900. Its organizers were: C. P. Grisier, A. J. Fraker, A. W. Crisman, L. D. Gottshall, A. B. Thompson, A. M. Wilkins, and S. P. Bishop. The first officers were: C. P. Grisier, president; A. J. Fraker, vice president; J. W. Crisman, second vice president; A. P. Grisier, cashier. For the first seven years of its operation, the bank was located on Main street, Delta, in the center of a block, and upon the site where now stands the clothing store of P. C. Smith. The bank building was gutted by fire in 1907, and for six or seven months thereafter, the institution did its business in a temporary frame structure hastly erected over the bank vaults, which had withstood the fire. Meanwhile, a new bank building was in course of construction, and in 1908 was completed, at a cost of about $15,000. Since that year it has been the home of the institution, which on July 6, 1914, liquidated as a national bank, reorganizing as a state bank on the same day. Under the reorganization the following named stockholders became officers: C. P. Grisier, president; A. J. Fraker and J. W. Crisman, vice presidents; W. C. Hoch, cashier; W. H. Fraker, assistant cashier. There has been one change since that year, A. J. Fraker resigning, and W. H. Fraker being appointed second vice president. The capital stock of the bank has always remained the same, $25,000, but its surplus is now $25,000, and its resources, on February 28, 1920, totalled to $680,829.01. Present directors, in addition to officers above-stated, are: A. B. Thompson, S. P. Bishop, A. M. Wilkins, and Chas I. Fraker.

The Farmers and Merchant Deposit Company, a state bank, was organized in May, 1901, with an authorized capital of $25,000. Its principals were prominent business men of Swanton, and in that village the bank was opened for business in May, 1901. Its original officers were: L. N. Pilliod, president; C. J. Brindley, vice president; and George R. Ackerman, cashier. Its present directorate is constituted as follows: C. J. Brindley, president; John Caraghar, vice

president; M. J. Linehan, vice president; George R. Ackerman, cashier; A. B. Lathrop, Casper Murbach, John Rhobasser, F. E. Pilliod, and A. D. Baker, directors. The Report of Condition, at the close of business, May 4, 1920, showed the bank then to have had resources amounting to $815,603.53, a capital of $25,000, and a surplus of $15,000.

There are two Metamora banks. Both were organized in 1901, but the first to actually open for business was the Farmers and Merchants Bank. It was organized on July 17, 1901, as a branch of the Farmers and Merchants Bank Company of Sylvania, Ohio, and opened on August 10, 1901, in the store of F. A. Seeley, Metamora. The first officers were: A. R. Chandler, president; E. F. Rowley and Thomas Gibbs, Sr., vice presidents; and W. B. Harris, cashier. The original stockholders included A. R. Chandler, M. Lochbihler, C. H. Heffron, L. L. Ford, F. A. Seeley, Andrew Becker, George Bell, L. J. Newton, W. H. Dennis, and George W. Taylor. In 1902 the bank took corporate powers, as a state bank. Its capital then was $12,500, and under the following named officers: C. H. Heffron, president; Miles Kahle and L. L. Ford, vice presidents; F. A. Seeley, cashier. Until July, 1916, the bank was located on the north side of Main street, Metamora, almost opposite Maple street, but in the month named it was moved to its present location, on the corner of Maple and Main streets. The bank report of May 4, 1920, states that the resources then totalled to $381,682.00, that the paid in capital stock was $25,000, with a surplus of $5,800.00. The present officers are: F. E. Broadbeck, president; C. Gestwite, vice president; E. A. Seeley, cashier.

The Home Savings Bank, of Metamora, was established in 1901, and opened for business on September 16, of that year. Its location has never changed, although in view of the steady expansion of banking business done by the institution, the directors a few years ago decided to build a suitable bank building. On December 28, 1918, the new bank building was opened. The bank stockholders have never sought charter of incorporation. The organizers, E. S. Davoll, Horace Tredway, H. H. Tredway, S. O. Rothfuss, J. W. Crisman, and A. F. Mitchell, are still its stockholders, and the original president, E. S. Davoll, is still in that office, and, it is stated, the bank has each year been in a position to pay good dividends. Its original capital, which was $2,500, has been increased many times, and the paid-in capital now stands at $12,000. Its resources, on May 4, 1920, were $467,441.06. Its banking house, lot, furniture, and fixtures, are valued at $14,882.00.

The First National Bank, of Wauseon, was organized in 1903. On September 1st of that year, application was made to the Controller of the Currency for authority to organize the First National Bank of Wauseon, Ohio, said application having affixed thereto the signatures of S. O. Rothfuss, F. C. Hoehler, A. D. Gilmore, E. S. Davoll, and F. O. Peak. On October 22, 1903, the Articles of Association and Organization Certificate were executed and forwarded to the Controller of the Currency.

The papers named F. C. Hoehler, S. O. Rothfuss, A. D. Gilmore, E. S. Davoll, and C. F. M. Niles as directors, and the following to

act as officers: F. C. Hoehler, president; E. S. Davoll, vice president; S. O. Rothfuss, cashier. On January 9, 1904, authority was given to commence business under charter number 7091, and ten days later, the shareholders adopted a resolution increasing the capital from $25,000 to $35,000. At the first annual meeting of shareholders, held on January 28, 1904, a new board of directors was elected. The new board was constituted as follows: D. K. Shoop, president; F. J. Spencer, vice president; S. O. Rothfuss, cashier; P. J. Lenhart, J. M. Longnecker, H. T. Hall, F. G. Hoehler, E. S. Davoll, C. F. M. Niles, and A. D. Gilmore, directors. The bank did not however open for business until February 15, 1904, and were then able to occupy the new bank building erected at the corner of Depot and Fulton streets.

First National Bank, Wauseon

The building is valued at $15,000, and at that address, 114 North Fulton street, the First National Bank has since continued to do its business. Messrs. Shoop and Spencer are still president and vice president, respectively, but S. O. Rothfuss in 1913 was elected second vice president, and Henry F. Davis appointed cashier. In 1917 Wayne B. Harris became cashier, and a promising career was cut short on January 31, 1920, Mr. Harris then succumbing to sickness. He had not yet reached his third decade of life, yet he had more prominent connection with Liberty Loan campaigns during the years of war than had any other Fulton county citizen, and it seemed that a notable banking career was before him. His place as cashier at the First National Bank was taken by Frank Weber, who had formerly been assistant to Mr. Harris. The First National Bank of Wauseon is steadily expanding its volume of business, and a 1920 report of its condition

shows its resources to be more than a million dollars. Its capital is now $50,000, with a surplus of $15,000.

The Lyons Commercial Bank, a co-partnership, had its inception in 1903, or 1904, the principal organizer being a Mr. Seagreaves, who was connected with the Toledo and Western Railroad Company, the tracks of which were laid through Royalton Township and a station opened at Lyons in 1902. At the outset the bank was an authorized state bank, but in 1908 the original stockholders sold to prominent citizens of Lyons. From that time, the institution has been conducted as a private bank. There is every probability however that, on July 1, 1920, the business will again pass into the state bank category, a movement now being in process to make it such, with a capital of $10,000. Its officers in 1908, when the bank passed into the control of local people, were: Charles Holt, president; Fred H. Carpenter, cashier; R. P. Carpenter, secretary and treasurer. A reorganization on March 31, 1911, brought in R. C. Rothfuss, as president, and S. O. Rothfuss, as vice president. Present officers are: H. H. Tredway, president; E. S. Davoll, vice president; H. R. Tredway, cashier.

The Peoples Savings Bank Company, of Delta, was organized on April 14, 1906, as a state bank, with a capital of $25,000. The organizers were: J. M. Longnecker, F. Briggs, W. T. Saxton, Hal M. Parker, J. A. Latzer, N. F. Carmon, and Byron Yarnell. The original officers were: J. M. Longnecker, president; F. Briggs, and W. T. Saxton, vice presidents; N. F. Carmon, cashier. The bank opened for business on June 6, 1906, on the north side of Main street, Delta, in the store now occupied by McKeen and Company, confectioners. Sixteen months later however the bank was removed to 312 Main street, and that has since been its location. The present members of its directorate are: J. M. Longnecker, president; W. T. Saxton, vice president; A. T. McComb, cashier; W. L. Biddle, W. E. Fowler, F. J. Shumaker, E. M. Tappan, and C. R. P. Waltz, directors. Mr. McComb has been cashier since February, 1908. The institution has had a satisfactory banking career, and although its capital is still $25,000, it has a surplus of $32,000. Its resources, on May 4, 1920, totalled to $563,285.12, and its deposits to $504,365.15.

Fayette has two banks, and both came into existence in 1906 . The Fayette State Savings Bank was opened on October 8, 1906, and its principal organizers and stockholders were members of the Rorick family, so well-known and so closely associated with Fulton county. C. Rorick, Sr., of Morenci, Michigan, and at that time president of the First National Bank of Morenci became president of the Fayette bank; G. Acker became its vice president; and G. H. Crane its cashier. Other original directors were: H. C. Rorick and Sidney Spitzer, of Toledo; J. C. Rorick, of Wauseon; Albert B. Forester, of Morenci; W. D. Murphy, and D. W. Griffin, of Fayette. The bank was opened in a building almost opposite its present quarters. Their present bank building was formerly known as the Co-operative Building. It cost the bank organizers $3,750, and it was purchased prior to the opening of bank in 1906. The former occupant however had a long lease, and until its expiration the building was not available for banking purposes. In 1911, Mr. C. Rorick, Sr., died, and Dr. E. H. Rorick of Fayette, became president. He was succeeded two years later by

a relative, H. C. Rorick, president of the Spitzer-Rorick Trust Company, of Toledo. He is still president, other officials and directors being: J. C. Rorick, vice president; G. H. Crane, cashier; M. B. Badger and E. R. Crane, directors. The Fayette State Savings Bank has grown in resources from $26,674.00 in 1906 to $367,627.64 in 1920. Its capital stock is now $12,500, and there is a surplus of $15,000.

The Farmers State Bank was founded on November 10, 1906, and occupies its own substantial brick building, in the old Kendall Block. Its facilities, in banking room, vaults, and such like, are quite modern, and its management seems to be conservative yet progressive. The original officers were: C. P. Grisier, president; J. A. Mattern, vice president; C. D. Hause, cashier; G. K. Russell, C. K. Miller, J. Bodley Brink, J. Grisier, W. A. Gunsaullus, J. Riley Wise, J. H. Stoner, and E. B. Gambee, directors. The only changes in directorate are that Dr. E. H. Rorick is now a member, and also second vice president, and Messrs. Brink, Wise, and Gunsaullus are no longer members. The capital is now $25,000, with surplus of $20,000. Its resources at the close of business on February 28, 1920, totalled to $515,871.92.

A state bank was organized by leading citizens of Archbold in 1907, the new bank taking the name of the Peoples State Bank Company. It began to do business in October, 1907, under promising auspices, and its growth has been steady. Its capital has always been $25,000, paid in, and in February, 1920, the surplus fund stood at $7,100, and the resources at $477,814.57. The original stockholders were: L. P. Vernier, E. E. Hallett, J. C. Nofzinger, E. Rupp, J. Rupp, John Gigax, J. Baumgartner, David Snyder, A. M. Buhrer, Fred Flory, S. C. Schantz, N. J. Rychener, G. D. Wyse, J. Wyse, and John H. Miller. The original directorate was as follows: L. P. Vernier, president; J. Rupp, vice president; S. C. Schantz, secretary and cashier; John Baumgartner, G. D. Wyse, S. C. Nofzinger, E. E. Hallett, and A. M. Buhrer, directors. The 1920 directorate is: J. H. Miller, president; F. A. Geesey, vice president; S. C. Schantz, cashier; S. C. Nofzinger, N. J. Ruchener, J. Monroe, and G. J. Vernier, directors. Mr. Schantz has been cashier since the establishment of the bank, in 1907.

In March of 1909 the Pettisville Savings Bank, a private banking company, with a capital of $5,000, was organized by D. K. Shoop, F. J. Spencer, G. D. Wyse, Simon Rychener, J. S. Rychener, G. McGuffin, S. O. Rothfuss, R. C. Rothfuss, J. B. Meister, and W. J. Weber, all of whom, excepting J. S. Rychener and R. C. Rothfuss, still have connection with the bank. The original and present officers were and are: John B. Meister, president; George McGuffin, vice president; William J. Weber, cashier. The bank opened for business on September 1, 1909, and its volume of business has developed satisfactorily. The Report of the Condition of the bank at the close of business May 4, 1920, showing resources of $223,496.73, a capital of $7,000, and a surplus of $1,530.08.

CHAPTER IX

INSTITUTIONAL HISTORY OF FULTON COUNTY

In reviewing the history of institutions and societies of Fulton County, it will not, probably, be thought improper to refer first to the Fulton County Fair, which of all the institutions of the county, saving of course those of religious purpose, is that in which the people in general seem to take greatest interest. That must be so, when it is realized that for many years the average attendance at the annual fair of the Fulton County Agricultural Society has been more than twenty thousand persons. And the days spent at the Fair are to most people probably happy memories; recollections of pleasurable reunions with old friends; of days made bright by spirited, yet friendly competition with one's neighbors; and by a wholesome pride in the agricultural development and excellence of the home county.

The First Fair

Sixty-two years have passed since the first fair was held in Fulton county, and to the stimulus engendered by its competitions may surely be attributed some of the agricultural development of the county. As to the first fair:

"The idea of a fair for Fulton County came of a pleasant ride to another fair" stated an article published in the "Democratic Expositor" of Wauseon, some years ago. "One beautiful day, early in the autumn of 1857, while Mr. and Mrs. Dresden W. H. Howard, together with Mr. and Mrs. Henry Camp, of Cleveland, were driving from the Howard homestead, near Winameg, to Adrian, to see the fair there, Mr. Howard suddenly exclaimed: 'Why can't we have a fair?' Mr. Camp replied that they could if they only said that they would. The attractiveness of the Adrian fair...took such a hold on Mr. Howard that he resolved to start the ball rolling in Fulton County immediately.

"Accordingly, as soon as he got home, he called a meeting of his neighbors, and so filled them with his own enthusiasm that the county agricultural society was then and there organized. It was determined to hold the fair the next year.

"For a site, ten acres of land were leased on the farm of Dr. Welcome C. Robinson, just east of Ottokee. When the time came for getting the grounds in shape for the first exhibition, teams and labor were offered gratis by nearly everybody in the vicinity, and it was only a little while until a suitable place and commodious buildings were ready.

"At first, the people did not seem to know what was expected of them in the way of exhibits. For instance, a horticultural hall had been provided, but the only flowers to be seen in it were the blossoms of a white tea rose, furnished by Mrs. Howard. Perhaps one reason for this lack of interest in bringing things to exhibit was due to the fact

that only subscriptions to agricultural papers, such as the Farmer's Review, were offered for premiums, as money was lacking. The next year, however, Mrs. Joe Willey, wife of the pioneer merchant at Phillips' Corner, or what we now call Siney, saw to it that plenty of flowers were provided for this hall. Naturally there was no race course on this small plot, but recreation was furnished by plowing matches between the farmers; and probably more interest was shown in these matches than is now manifested in horse races.

"When the ten-year lease of the Robinson tract was about to expire, some of the younger men in the society, notably Elder L. L. Carpenter, were ambitious to buy a suitable site of forty acres, and have a race course. The older men...hesitated somewhat at assuming such a considerable undertaking, but finally acquiesced if, as the 'Colonel'

RACE TRACK, COUNTY FAIR GROUNDS.

said, they would buy early, so that they could get the land cheap. The result was the purchase of the present grounds, with Elder Carpenter, Oliver Verity and 'Colonel' Howard..assuming the chief responsibility.

"We of today can little appreciate the amount of work necessary in converting this land, from a muggy swamp, into a high and dry exhibition grounds, with an excellent race course."

"Among the early members of the society, in addition to Colonel Howard, Judge Verity, and Elder Carpenter, were O. Merrill, A. B. Robinson, E. H. Patterson, Joseph Shadle, Joel Brigham, L. G. Ely, S. G. Aumend, James Turner, H. C. Adams, Albert Deyo, A. B. Thomson, Richard Scott, Elliot, Isaac and Meek Bayes and Clark Standish. These men guided the society through it first three or four decades of active operation. The first fair grounds were situated in Dover Township, about a half mile east and nearly half a mile south from Ottokee. The second and present, location was on marshy, unimproved, and, in parts, densely wooded land, on the west road leading

from Wauseon to Ottokee. The improvements for the first year were made at an expense of about fifteen hundred dollars, and subsequent erection of buildings, fences, enclosures, and the construction of race track cost the society several thousand dollars. And in addition, many of the public-spirited men who were active in carrying through the project to definite success gave much of their time and labor gratuitously. They were later recognized and rewarded by election to life membership of the society; and of these original life members only two now survive: Lucius P. Taylor, of Pike Township, now in his one hundred and fourth year; and the Hon. L. G. Ely, of West Unity, Williams county. He was president for very many years, and scarcely missed attending a meeting of the fair board, making the journey from his home in West Unity with unfailing regularity.

Raising the Pioneer Log Cabin, on the Fair Grounds

One of the most interesting events in the history of the Fulton County Agricultural Society was that which took place in 1885, when a log cabin, similar to those of pioneer days, was raised on the fair grounds by eighty-four pioneer residents. James H. Sherwood, pioneer journalist of Fulton county, was himself much interested in the happening, and the following was written by him, and published in his newspaper, the Wauseon "Republican":

"A grand day in the history of the Fulton County Pioneer Asso ciation was Tuesday last, the enthusiasm and interest attending their 'log cabin raising' that day on the Fulton County Fair Grounds, being a matter of surprise to everyone. It is estimated that 1,000 people were present, and although no special effort was made to entertain them, beyond the spectacle of the raising itself, yet the universal expression of those who attended was that they had passed the day most delightfully. The old pioneers seemed to have regained some of the vigor of their earlier years, and engaged in the work with all the energy of former days. Wells Watkins, D. L. Buler, W. H. Beatty, and a Mr. Nixon, all men nearing seventy years of age, were corner men at different times during the day, their work showing that they had not forgotten the art of carrying up a corner in proper shape. To Ralph Herrick, son of Elijah Herrick, one of the younger pioneers, and his father's substitute in the work of the day, belongs the honor of carrying a corner from the ground to the top, he being the only man remaining at his post during the entire raising..... Despite the faithful labor bestowed upon it, night came and found the cabin incomplete, and the work was deferred until.....the 22nd inst." It was then finished with appropriate ceremonies.

It was indeed a great event; one which took the pioneers back forty or fifty years, to the time when, if they did not "blaze the trail," they certainly "built, and lived in, cabins of roughly hewn logs, made without the use of nails, and.....endured the hardships of winter in those rude homes"; and they entered joyously into the preparations for the log raising on the Fair grounds. Every pioneer was to bring one log, which was to be of buckeye, if obtainable, otherwise of hickory or oak. And in the names of those who furnished logs and other requisites for the cabin is found a list of eighty-four

of the valiant pioneers of the county. As published, the participants in the log raising were:

"Thomas Lingle, D. W. H. Howard, Jesse Pocock, Osias Merrill, James Fenton, G. W. Grisinger, Wells Watkins, O. A. Cobb, Riley McMannis, O. B. Verity, Joshua Shaffer, Hosea Shadle, Alonzo Marks, J. M. Huff, H. S. Persing, L. G. Ely, A. H. Jordan, William Lemmon, John Jacoby, A. S. Fleet, John Butler, Jerry Williams, John Conaway, J. B. Murray, Daniel Miller, E. H. Patterson, David Ayers, Allen Shadle, John McQuillen, Richard Shadle, C. H. Losier, Thomas Mikesell, Jefferson Case, George Tappan, Winfield Tappan, Joseph Aldrich, J. S. Biddle, Charles Harrison, S. D. Spring, Willard Crout, Stephen Eldridge, John Williams, William Struble, W. Mauley, S. J. Salsberry, Elijah Herrick, John Kimerer, John A. Rupert, Jacob Krontz, Cora Spillane, S. C. Biddle, Valentine Winslow, Chester Herrick, Joseph Shadle, Harvey Shadle, Jerry Miller, Eli Phillips, Jacob Funk, Josiah Lee, C. E. Bennett, Henry Scott, E. H. Cately, George Gasche, Jerry Tedrow, Norman Munger, A. B. Thompson, John Nobbs, R. Briggs, John Atkins, A. Waffle, L. W. Brown, Samuel Losure, Katie Minnich, John Harrison, Calvin Biddle, A. Hoffmire, S. S. Carter, Elisha Viers, Thomas Wardley, Delos Palmer, Albert Bell, Dr. Hy. Herriman, J. W. Willets, and John L. Minnich."

Thereafter for many years, at Fair-time, the old pioneers would meet, and, in the prompting environment of the log cabin would delight in talking of old times; but as the years passed, and the pioneers' ranks became thin, the Fair managers thought that the usefulness of the log cabin had been served, and that its site might be given to other and more modern uses. The thought of the raising of the cabin inspired Mrs. Lydia Carter Aldrich, a poetess of considerable note and a member of a pioneer Fulton county family, to write a stirring poem, "The Cabin." It was hung in the old cabin, among pioneer portraits and relics, during Fair-time of 1906. The cabin was used for the last time in that year, and the poem was published in the "Republican" on October 12th of that year. It is here reproduced in full, so as to, if possible, perpetuate in future generations of Fulton county people, the true spirit of reverence they owe to their pioneer fathers, by whose self-sacrifice the swamp and wilderness were converted into what Fulton county now is. The poem reads:

For a glimpse of the life that was theirs, in that time,
This cabin was built by the old pioneers,
That the young, who now live in palatial homes,
Might drift back, in dream, to those earlier years.

To 'The Simple Life,' rich in the blessings of love:—
See the stalwart young farmer, with oxen and plow—
The scant-acred clearing—beginning of Home—
The wife, with contentment enthroned on her brow,
While mother-love beams, with excusable pride,
On her boy-baby, toddling o'er the rude puncheon floor;
O, treasures of hope, and ambition's wild dreams!
The realms of queenship could give her no more.

To a cabin like this, in the wilderness built,
Where red men and wolves prowled unpleasantly near,
The young wife was bro't from her home in the east,
To make this rude hut a dwelling of cheer.

He who blazes the road for the car wheels of Progress.
Has ever the soul of true manliness shown:—
Those earliest coming to pioneer Fulton,
Were the bravest and noblest the county has known.

Ere the cabin is razed, to make room for 'The New'—
Ere its puncheons and logs become rubbish for flame,
Just sit in its shelter a moment for rest,
While memory recounts to you pioneer names;
There's Howard and Waffle, and Chatfield and Shadle,
And Canfield, and Aldrich, and Andre and Waid,
And others who joined in this spirit of home-love,
And out of the wildest, these lovely grounds made.

This spot was by nature unsightly and rude,
But 'cat-hole' and prairie—its forest and fen
Were wrought into beauty, possessing a charm
That wins from their business the busiest men.

E'en women will break from the fetters of care—
Have time for enjoyment each day of the Fair,
And children—all ages, from little to big,
Are out for a 'good time', in holiday rig;
Their colors are bright as the poppy-bed's bloom,
No spot on the grounds for a shadow of gloom,
Unless it should be round the cabin—grown old—
Late rule has decreed that, for this, it be sold:—
Converted to fuel, or any vile use
That pleases the buyer, and without excuse
To the ashes of those who had builded it there,
Invoking Posterity's tenderest care.

A Mecca was this, where the Pioneers met,
Looked over the 'relics'; clasped hands with old friends;
Recounted some scenes (which they could not forget)
With the glow that Life's sunset, in its retrospect lends.

Tho' the Cabin is doomed, with all things that decay,
The 'Rockery', firm with the labor of years,
Let stand as an altar-place, sacred I pray,
Lit with Memory's flame for the old Pioneers

Few of the pioneers were still living when the cabin was torn down, so that few had to feel the keen pangs that some unfortunately had to experience. In commenting on the incident, one paper stated that when "this old land-mark was destroyed.....old men wept like children, for as Dr. William Ramsey, the veteran physician of

Delta, has said: 'a connecting link between the past and present has been destroyed'." It is, however, here recorded for posterity.

In 1883, another Fair company was organized, a stock company, which traded as the Northwestern Ohio Fair Company. It owned a ground on the outskirts of Wauseon, but eventually the company was liquidated, having failed to attract sufficient public support.

The Fulton County Agricultural Society has always been sufficiently near to being a paying concern to be considered as permanently established. And its annual Fair meetings have in most years been successfully carried through. A. F. Shaffer succeeded Mr. Ely as president, and in about 1909, T. H. Fraker of Delta became president. He has since held the office. S. W. Sipe is vice president; C. A. Knapp is treasurer, and Carl F. Orth, is secretary. Other directors now are: Orlo Whittaker, Will Standish, Ellsworth Shade, Albert Lloyd, J. C. Geesey, W. L. Biddle, R. D. Miller, C. A. Knapp, Charles Arnsberger, Dan Clingaman, George A. Lew, Sr., E. G. Dalley, D. W. Williams, F. J. Spencer, and E. B. Beatty. Of late years, boys' and girls' clubs have been encouraged, with much credit to the Fair board, and such activities give a distinct interest to the annual fairs. Also, the remarkable development of Fulton county, as a dairying centre, is strikingly evident at the yearly meets. Fulton county now, in its exhibits of Holstein-Friesian cattle at the annual fair, leads almost all other counties in the state. While watching the race track events, it will interest many to know that thirty-five years ago, Richard Shadle, then seventy years old, "and a most highly respected citizen of Ottokee" for the greater part of his life, now of course ended, "held the plow which first broke the ground for the.....race track. Four yoke of oxen were used, and it required many days of hard toil before Mother Earth was got into any kind of shape for a racing circle" stated the record.

The history of the many granges of Fulton county would be too voluminous to here record. Briefly, the movement in this county began in 1873, and grange organizations came rapidly into being in most agricultural centres of the county. Some however were of brief existence. The most prominent promoters of the movement were: M. H. Hayes, J. H. Brigham, and Wesley A. Blake; and others prominent in the various townships included: George Gasche, Lafayette Ely, George Roos, Albert Deyo, S. H. Cately, and S. B. Skeels. The first subordinate grange to be organized was Fulton Grange, No. 217, which was instituted on November 15, 1873, in York Township, S. B. Skeels being master. North Star Grange was organized, in Wauseon, December 7, 1873, with Colonel J. H. Brigham, master. Aetna, Ottokee, Chesterfield, Gorham, Champion, Franklin, and Royalton granges came into existence in 1874. The Fulton County Pomona Grange was organized, in Wauseon, September 2, 1876, W. H. Williams, of Chesterfield, having the honor of being elected its first master. The histories of most of the subordinate granges would necessarily be very similar, therefore, as much for general as for individual record, a review of the history of one only—of the Chesterfield Grange, No. 367, which was organized on January 12, 1874, is given. The facts were compiled by Miss Olive Roos, who wrote:

"William A. Williams became interested in the Grange, by hearing the matter discussed in Wauseon. He talked with the neighbors he met, but being engaged in teaching school could not give it the time neecssary to work it up, and at his request Ambrose Combs spent some time, and a meeting was appointed at his house (where Amos Fay now lives).

"M. H. Hayes, of Wauseon, deputy state master, was there and explained the object of the organization. The majority of those present became charter members, as follows: J. H. Turner, David Marks, F. A. Denson, Richard Roos, F. B. Sheffield, Morris Smith, Peter Romans, John Roberts, A. Combs, William A. Williams, A. M. Lee, Eustace Leggett, Joseph Johnson, Josiah Lee, Lester L. Ward, Chester Welch, and their wives; Mrs. Mary Mead, Edgar Mead, and C. H. Stutesman. They proceeded then and there to organize and take the pledge of membership, electing and installing officers as follows: William A. Williams, W. M.; Josiah Lee, W. S.; Eustace Leggett, W. S.; A. M. Lee, secretary; F. B. Sheffield, gatekeeper; Mrs. A. M. Lee, Pomona; J. H. Turner, W. O.; Joseph Johnson, chaplain; David Marks, A. S.; Ambrose Combs, treasurer; Mrs. J. H. Turner, Ceres; and Mrs. David Marks, Flora.

"The next meetings were held at the homes of William A. Williams and J. H. Turner. In the meantime, Mr. Roberts offered the use of his cheese factory (situated opposite the house of the Delevan Gillis place, now owned by Oliver Onweller) until needed in the spring, and the arrangement was made. Then they arranged with J. H. Turner to build a cheap building on the W. A. Williams place, which had been moved to the roadside on the same farm now owned by Mr. Jennings. Mr. Turner had the hall ready by the time Mr. Roberts wanted the factory, the members paying for it by subscription. The hall was used that summer without plastering, and when that work was done in the fall by Frank Denson, the building made a very comfortable meeting place. It was seated with benches, until they could procure funds to reseat it with chairs.

"The present Grange hall was built by J. H. Turner, and was dedicated by Col. J. H. Brigham on June 6, 1886. This grange is said to have the finest hall in the county. In 1904, the grange celebrated its 30th anniversary, in a very appropriate manner. After a sumptuous dinner had been served, a program arranged by C. T. Stutesman.....

"It is said that among the charter members J. H. Turner was the most prominent until he moved to Morenci. The ground for the first hall was leased by the late Peter Romans, and the land where the present hall is was deeded to the grange by the late Darwin Gillis. The grange recently purchased a fine piano for its hall, and the order is in a very flourishing condition."

The granges of course have their practical uses, but they serve as another of those channels through which flow the constant stream of good neighborliness. Prominent early members of the pioneer granges of the county were: G. P. Roos, G. W. Roos, R. P. Boody, A. M. Lee, O. B. Verity, J. D. Aldrich, J. L. Chatfield, Joseph Shadle, J. W. Howard, G. M. Tappan, J. M. Sindel, W. H., E. M., and E. S. Strong, R. H. Scott, W. P. Garrison, John Borton, L. G. Ely, H. S.

Persing. There were of course many others who had prominent connection with the early granges, to which belonged most of the prominent agriculturists of the county.

Another of the strong organizations of the county is the Farmers' Institute, which for many years has had annual meetings, at which are discussed not only matters that bear directly on agricultural problems and progress, but upon the general life. For instance, centralization of township schools has been the subject of interested and animated discussion. Speakers come from various parts of the state, and from other states, to address the gatherings, and the agriculturists of the county benefit much by the functioning of the Farmers' Institute.

Another organization of agricultural purpose, but of recent establishment, is the Fulton County Farm Bureau, the purpose of which is to help solve the farmer's problems, and to improve agriculture in all lines, having the social welfare of farm life well in view, as well as crop production. R. A. Cave became county agent in 1918, and still holds that capacity. The officers now are: C. L. Shreves, of Wauseon, president; W. B. McClarren, of Delta, vice president; Harmon Gasche, of Wauseon, secretary-treasurer. The various departments, and their respective heads, are: T. L. Aumend, of Wauseon, farm crops; E. J. Krieger, of Swanton, soils; C. D. Perry, of Wauseon, boys' and girls' club work; George Knapp, of Delta, livestock; W. L. Biddle, of Wauseon, dairy; Frank H. Reighard, of Wauseon, legislation; W. B. McClarren, of Delta, fertilizer; and D. B. Simpson, of Wauseon, good roads. The Bureau now has about 650 members.

A historical association was organized in 1883, and took the name of the Fulton County Pioneer and Historical Association. Prominent in the organization were Michael Handy, L. G. Ely, D. W. H. Howard, Albert Deyo, Joseph Shadle, and James S. Dean. Meetings were held twice yearly for some years, but it ceased to function eventually, and its transactions, which should have been faithfully preserved, cannot now be traced. Most of the pioneers who were prominent in the early meetings of the association have passed away. The last officers seem to have been: Mrs. John S. Butler, who was daughter of Chesterfield Clemons, and was honored by election to the presidential office. She died some years ago; Charles F. Handy, secretary. He was a worthy pioneer, Civil War veteran, was seventy-six years resident in the county, and for twenty-five years a justice of the peace. He died in 1917; and George D. Newcomer, treasurer. He is still alive, and states that the small sum left in the treasury of the association in 1917 he contributed to the Red Cross, when funds for war purposes were solicited in its behalf in that year. So, has passed away the one society which had as its object the preservation of historical records of pioneer days in Fulton county.

In 1903, the Fulton County Humane Society was organized, with sixteen members. No members were added in fifteen years, and of the sixteen only twelve were alive in 1918, and of that number only two were resident in the county in that year. In 1910, Mr. Charles Gingery, of Swan Creek Township, was appointed County Humane Officer, at a salary of twenty-five dollars a month, payable from county funds. In 1918, Prosecuting Attorney Stahl notified the Commissioners to stop payment, whereupon Mr. Gingery, it was soon after-

wards stated, declared his willingness and determination to continue the work without pay.

Out of county funds also, of course, has come the sums necessary, from year to year, to maintain the Fulton County Home, or as it was formerly known the Fulton County Infirmary, at Ottokee. When it was decided by the October election of 1869 that the county seat should be removed from Ottokee to Wauseon, it was evident that a good and commodious building used as a court house at Ottokee would soon become vacant, and idle. Therefore, the commissioners of the county, in March, 1874, the Ottokee courthouse having been vacated, and the new Wauseon building opened, decided to establish a county institute, or home, for the destitute poor, and to set apart the old courthouse at Ottokee for that purpose. Three hundred nearby acres of land were purchased, a large and commodious barn was built, and the refitted courthouse was ready for occupancy, as a poor home, on May 1, 1874, it being thought that the cultivation of the 300 acres of land

FULTON COUNTY HOME.

would probably in time, make the institution self-sustaining, or nearly so. James S. Riddle, one of the first directors of the Infirmary, wrote "A Short History of Fulton County, Ohio," in 1883, and the following information, regarding the Infirmary, is extracted from that history:

"In March, 1874, the County Commissioners established the County Infirmary, and appointed O. A. Cobb, of Dover; P. R. Lewis, of Swan Creek; and J. S. Riddle, of Franklin, as Infirmary directors. They were notified by the Auditor of their appointment, and they were requested to appear before the Commissioners on the 9th of April, give bonds, and be sworn into office. Accordingly they met, and were severally sworn into office, and organized by appointing J. S. Riddle, secretary. They met at the Infirmary, the Commissioners with them to counsel and instruct, and appointed O. B. Verity as superintendent. They had everything to provide for the carrying on of the institution,

and no money to buy with; but the Commissioners came to their relief and transferred some other funds, for the time being, and helped them to make a start. The first inmates were taken in on the 2nd day of May, 1874.

"At the October election following, P. R. Lewis, of Swan Creek, was elected director for three years; S. B. Skeels of York for two years; and J. S. Riddle for one year. In 1876, J. S. Riddle was elected for three years. In 1876, J. H. Turner of Chesterfield was elected in S. B. Skeels' place. In 1877 Stephen Eldridge, of Dover, was elected in place of P. R. Lewis; in 1878, O. A. Cobb, of Dover, was elected in place of J. S. Riddle; and E. H. Patterson, of Dover, was elected in place of Stephen Eldridge in the year, 1880.

"O. B. Verity and Mrs. Verity served as superintendent and matron very acceptably for nearly five years, when, desiring to be relieved, John Whittaker and lady were appointed to the positions.

"Some complaint was made at first that the poor farm was too much expense, but when we take into consideration that the farm was to be cleared, fenced and ditched, and all the farm utensils, household and kitchen furniture to purchase, the expense was not as much as for similar institutions in adjoining counties. The institution is now in a prospering condition and the inmates have always been treated humanely."

The present brick structure was built in 1894, and was occupied on Christmas Day of that year, thirty-five to forty charges sitting down to their Christmas dinner in their new home. The building was erected at a cost of about $40,000, was well built, and has since splendidly served the purposes for which it was intended. There are now twenty-three male and eight female inmates, and the accommodation for them consists of: two single rooms and nine double rooms, two of which are for three beds, in the men's wing; and two single, and eight double rooms in the women's wing. There is also a sitting room for the women inmates. In addition, there are the spacious general living rooms, dining hall, sitting room, and parlor. The sanitary conditions are excellent, and the building is lighted by electric supply from Wauseon. Those of the inmates who are strong enough, take part in farm work on the agricultural estate of the institution. Altogether there are 294 acres, 271 of which are improved, and tillable, and in most years successfully tilled. In 1919 the sale of farm produce yielded $6,884.45, which contributed subtsantially to the cost of maintaining the institution. In 1919, the total cost of maintenance was $11,312.75.

Formerly, the County Infirmary was controlled by a board of directors, elected by the voters of the county, but latterly the institution has been under the direct control of the county commissioners. Of the later directors, the service as such of Mr. A. R. Shaffer is deserving of special mention. He was a very efficient director for many years, retiring in 1904. The superintendents have been: O. B. Verity, for about five years; John Whittaker, for about eight years; S. S. Atkinson, for eight years; Charles Hartman, for fifteen years; H. B. Smith, for four years; W. S. Egnew, for two years; and B. F. Jones, since 1916. The institution also has two other employees, as farm hands. Charles Hartman and his wife, who retired in 1909, had excellent records as superintendent and matron, and the present super-

intendent has also given every satisfaction, proving himself in every way capable of properly managing such an institution.

The older fraternal orders, such as the Masonic, Oddfellows and Pythian Orders, are well represented in Fulton county, and the detailed histories of many local lodges will be given in the township chapters. Another fraternal order quite strong in Fulton county is the Ancient Order of Gleaners, of which Mr. H. H. Hough was one of the chief state officials, being now Supreme-Vice-Chief-Gleaner. It is a fraternal organization of agricultural character, and the lodges in Fulton county are mainly in agricultural centres. The lodges are, as listed by Mr. Hough: Pike Centre Arbor, located in Pike Township; Lyons Arbor, at Lyons, Royalton Township; Ai Arbor, Fulton Township; Swanton Arbor, Swanton; Oak Shade Arbor, situated at Brailey, Swan Creek Township; York Centre Arbor, York Township; Chesterfield Arbor, Chesterfield Township; Franklin Arbor, Franklin Township; South Fairfield Arbor, at Whiteville, Amboy Township; Ai Arbor, Delta; and the Ottokee Arbor, No. 851, Dover Township.

Among the Wauseon societies are two active women's organizations, the local chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution, and the Women's Club, of Wauseon.

The Wauseon Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution was organized on April 18, 1903, at the home of Mrs. Clara H. Newcomer, who became the first regent. The other original officers were: Mrs. Charlotte Ham, vice regent; Mrs. Mary S. Greenleaf, recording secretary; Mrs. Maria S. Green, treasurer; Mrs. Mary C. Edgar, historian; Mrs. Helen Outcalt, registrar; Mrs. Ellen Brigham, chaplain; Mrs. Harriet B. Sohn, chorister. The members, in 1920, are:

Resident: Mrs. Carrie (Light) Ackerman, Mrs. Celia (Brigham) Bennett, Mrs. Elizabeth (Lucas) Brigham, Mrs. Helen Brigham, Mrs. Elsie (Allen) Campbell, Mrs. Lura (Hollister) Campbell, Mrs. Grace (Struble) Cole, Mrs. Mary (Lord) Collins, Mrs. Minnie (Waid) Darby, Mrs. Minerva (Clement) Davies, Miss Ruth Davies, Mrs. Grace (Pritchard) Deyo, Mrs. Orpha (Darby) Dimke, Mrs. Edith (Shaw) Dudley, Miss Marjorie Dudley, Mrs. Flora (Hilton) Eager, Mrs. Eliza (Ham) Edgar, Mrs. Chloe (Ruppert) Edgar, Mrs. Mary (Dimond) Greenleaf, Miss Anna Louise Greenleaf, Mrs. Catherine (Barnes) Ham, Miss Adeline Augusta Howard, Mrs. Lillian (Strong) Johnson, Mrs. Sarah (Hultz) Kenyon, Miss Fanny Kenyon, Miss Lola Knapp, Miss Jessie Knibloe, Mrs. Florence (Spring) Maddox, Mrs. Agnes (Howard) McClarren, Mrs. Helen (Newcomer) Outcalt, Miss Mabel Read, Mrs. Anna (Biddle) Ruppert, Mrs. Fanny (Eager) Standish, Mrs. Pauline K. Stozer, Mrs. Eva (Marsh) Struble, Mrs. Mary (Read) Touvelle, Mrs. Clara (Montgomery) Ham. Nonresident; Miss Carrie Allen, Mrs. Lizzie (Knapp) Ames, Mrs. Mary Denman, Mrs. Ella (Bradley) Gosline, Miss Ethel Hoover, Mrs. Mary Nachtrieb, Miss Florence Scott, Mrs. Elvira (Taft) Lee, Miss Elsie Ely, Mrs. Mary (McClarren) Bruce, Mrs. Alice (Ely) Boothman, Mrs. Nell (Biddle) Petteys, Mrs. Cora (Biddle) Hatt, Mrs. Gladys (Waid) Walker, Mrs. Myrtle (Flick) Roberson, Miss Lillian Hough, Mrs. Florence (Riddle) Howe, Mrs. Florence (Boothman) Arnold, Mrs. Lena (Montgomery) Roos, Miss Mildred Curry, and Mrs. Mabel G. (Flick) Altstetter.

Mrs. Eliza (Ham) Edgar is the present regent, and Mrs. Orpha (Darby) Dimke, vice regent. The chapter came distinctly into favorable notice by its Red Cross work, in particular, during the recent war; in fact, it has been stated that the day next following that upon which President Wilson declared the nation to be in a state of war with Germany, the Wauseon Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution initiated Red Cross work in Wauseon.

The Women's Club, of Wauseon, Ohio, was organized in 1895, and became federated in the same year. Its purpose is mainly literary, and much credit is due to its members, and to the club as a whole, for the appreciable help they have afforded to the Wauseon Library Association during its period of instability. But the activities of the Women's Club have not been wholly literary; its functioning has had connection with the general and well-recognized range of women's work, in social, benevolent, and neighborly spheres. It will be of interest to name the charter members. They were:

Florence R. Howe, Pauline K. Stotzer, Lizzie L. Brigham, Mary R. Touvelle, Cora E. M. Gelzer, Helen M. Eager, Dora Myers, Prussia J. Brailey, Eva B. Struble, Nellie Eager, Harriet B. Sohn, Mary S. Greenleaf, Libbie D. Lyon, Dora A. Eager, Mattie Jameson, Jennie L. Grey, Mary S. Hunt, Laura H. Grabiel, Kate E. Ham, Connie Smallman, Emma W. Knapp, Lottie A. Ham, Retta Williams, Lucille Hunt, Esther S. Brown, Ellen E. Brigham. The present officers are: Mrs. Frank Kenyon, president; Mrs. C. W. Struble, vice president; Mrs. W. H. Maddox and Mrs. M. L. Altstetter, secretaries; Mrs. F. H. Reighard, treasurer.

There has been a county medical society for very many years, and information regarding it will be found in the medical chapter.

One other association which calls for a review is the Fulton County Soldiers and Sailors Memorial and Monument Association. It was organized in 1912, but its history goes back, really, for more than fifty years, to 1867, when, mainly through the efforts of that never-to-be-forgotten pioneer and patriot, D. W. H. Howard, the citizens of Fulton county began to erect, in Wauseon, a soldiers' monument, in memory and honor of those sons of the county who had served in the Civil war. The monument was never finished, and the project remained dormant until early in 1912, when Mr. Allen Shadle sought to revive interest in the matter. Soon afterwards a meeting of citizens took place, and the Fulton County Memorial and Monumental Association was formed, to carry on the work to completion. J. M. Longnecker, of Delta, was elected president, and Frank H. Reighard, of Wauseon, secretary. During the next few years the public subscribed satisfactorily, school children throughout the county figuring creditably in the work. The fund stood at about $3,300 in 1915. In February, 1920, the amount available was $4,116.14, and the Monumental Bronze Company, of Bridgeport, Connecticut, with which firm the contract for the erection of the monument had been placed, was urged to hurry the work to completion. The long delay has been regrettable, yet, it is gratifying now to realize that when erected, the monument will symbolize the people's respect for those who served and suffered in the great war just ended, as well as for those patriots

who gave themselves to the nation during the stress of the Civil and Spanish wars.

It is noteworthy in this connection to record that while Col. D. W. H. Howard, "that patriot, statesman, and progressive citizen," spent more than $1,000 from his personal means in a praiseworthy attempt to erect the monument "to perpetuate the sacred memory of the brave soldiers of Fulton county who risked all to keep the Stars and Stripes from trailing in the dust, and to save the sacred Union established and preserved by our noble ancestors," a worthy soldier of Civil war service, Allan Shadle, and his wife, have volunteered to contribute more than $1,000 if necessary "to crown the failure with success." Their contribution is part of the $4,116.14 now available to complete the erection of the monument.

CHAPTER X

THE PRESS OF FULTON COUNTY

In the early days of the settlement of the county the pioneers rarely saw a newspaper; in fact they rarely had any news at all of the outside world. They were of course conversant with the daily trend of affairs in their own little community, living practically as one family; and to some extent they had news of and from contiguous settlements; but little did they hear of the county in general, or, rather, of the territory in general, for until 1850, when Fulton county was organized, the territory now embraced in it was within the borders of three counties, Lucas, Henry, and Williams. Happenings in distant parts of the county came to the knowledge of the pioneer settlers mainly by hearsay. Indeed, some of the pioneers were altogether isolated, and saw little of even their "nextdoor" neighbors. "Uncle John" Butler, who came with the family of Alanson Briggs to section 12 of Chesterfield Township in 1835, explained how, six months after they had arrived, they first became aware that a neighbor was within two sections of them, and had been there for twelve months. He stated: "When I first came here we knew of no white person living in the country, nor did I see a white person until in the fall. One October day some Indians came into the store (a trading post), and told Mr. Briggs that they had seen a white man.....A few days later Chief Winameg.....came to the store.....and when I asked him if the 'Whiteman' was a trader or not, he shook his head and said: 'Whiteman build wigwam'.....I asked the chief to tell me where to find him.....The question seemed to bother him. He walked away and sat on the stump, and seemed to be lost in thought. In a little while he came up to me, and taking me by the arm led me to a section corner stone, which the government surveyors had planted a few years before. Pointing at the stone, and then in a certain direction, he made a certain number of motions with his arm, then stopped, and pointing in another direction.....made two motions.....and said: 'There, Whiteman.' We knew that each motion.....meant a mile, and the next day Mr. Briggs and I started out.....We followed the courses given us by the Indian, and as we came to the last mile, as marked by the Indian, we looked off to our right and saw a settlement. We received a hearty welcome into this home for we were the first white people they had seen in over a year. This was the home of Chesterfield Clemons.....after whom Chesterfield Township was named. Mr. Clemons had moved his family into this wilderness the fall before.....in an emigrant wagon..... and stopped in the woods.....where he had bought a farm..... There was not a stick of timber cut on the place. The family lived in this wagon until a log house could be built." This narrated ex-

perience will make it readily imaginable that news of other parts, and of the world in general, came to the pioneer families rarely. Travel was venturesome and difficult and a journey from one end of the county to the other would not be lightly undertaken. After 1836, mail came in by mounted carrier over the Star mail route with fair regularity; but the mail would consist mainly of personal letters, folded and sealed, but not enveloped. A newspaper from the East would rarely find its way into the mail carrier's valise or pouch. The mail route established in 1836 between Toledo and Lima, Indiana, covered a distance of 110 miles, with only one postoffice between the terminal points, and there was a continuous stretch of unbroken forest for thirty-three miles, from four miles west of Morenci, Michigan, through what is now Fulton county. For several years John S. Butler, the same "Uncle John" referred to above, and at that time a boy in his early teens, traversed the route on horseback twice weekly, carrying the mail. And one experience he had while travelling the route will show how perilous was travel in those wild parts in that early days. He said:

"About as badly scared as I ever was in my life was in the spring of 1838, while I was carrying the United States mails from Sylvania, a town north of Toledo, to Lima, Lagrange county, Indiana, a distance of ninety miles. I was a lad then of fourteen summers, and had carried the mail for more than a year over this trail, which was one almost unbroken forest. Along the route would be a settlement or a tavern here and there, where a traveller could stay all night.....I had travelled this route more than a year, and I knew every turn it made through the forest as well as I now (1907) know the public highways of my own township, where I have lived for more than seventy-two years. Travellers wishing to go West would wait at Sylvania for the 'mail boy' to pilot them over this route. The old Territorial road, now known as the 'Old Plank Road,' was cut out at this time as far as Morenci, but from there to the westward, for a distance of thirty miles, it was one unbroken forest, without a sign of civilization, and the only roads to travel were the Indian trails.

It was in March, 1838, when a traveller, whom I was piloting through the woods, and myself left the old Territorial road and set out to the westward over these Indian trails, which I had travelled many times. To me it was the same old story over again, but the fellow with me seemed to dread starting into the 'thirty-mile woods.' It was a fine March day. The sun shone warm, and the snow began to melt, and by two or three o'clock it was difficult for the horses to travel.....As we were riding along the trail on the bank of the St. Joe River, near the Indiana line, the man remarked that we must be near a settlement, for he has seen a dog down in the river bottom. I told him that the nearest settlement was five or six miles ahead of us, and that the dog he had seen was a wolf.....Along about sundown he called my attention to another wolf trotting through the woods some distance from us. I knew those wolves meant trouble for us before we reached the tavern. As the shades of night began to draw upon us, the traveller stopped his horse and asked what made that noise which sounded like the howl of a dog. I told him it was a pack of wolves, and that they were on our trail. We each cut a good club, sprang onto our tired horses, and pushed them forward as fast

as they could go. These clubs were the only weapons we had..... Nearer and nearer came the sound, until we knew that they were almost upon us. I had told the man with me not to try to run from the wolves when they came upon us, but to pull up to a big tree, and fight them off with his club. If he could kill one the rest of the pack would stop and eat it, and that would give us time to go a little further. Looking back, I could see the forms on the snow of a dozen or more wolves close to us. I directed the traveller to pull up to one side of a big tree, and I took the other. For half an hour we fought off those vicious beasts. Finally, they retreated, and we knew that one of them had fallen a victim to our clubs, and that it was now our chance to push on. It was only a short time before we could hear those wolves coming on again, and I knew that this fight would be harder than the other, for the taste of blood had added to the fury of

"I TOLD HIM THE DOG HE HAD SEEN WAS A WOLF."

those wild beasts. We were still two and a half miles from our tavern when we were compelled to pull up to a big oak, to make another fight. The fellow with me partially lost heart, and wished many times that he had not started on this journey. But we were in it, and an attempt now to run or turn back meant certain death. The wolves bore down upon us, and how long we fought them off I don't know. We shouted for help, and in the fierce fight our horses became frightened, and threatened to break away, which.....we knew meant certain death to us. When we were almost exhausted and overpowered, I heard the report of a gun, and knew that the tavern keeper had heard our shouts and.....was coming to our relief.....; finally, after what seemed hours of waiting and fighting, we could see the light of a torch. It was our tavern keeper.....A few well-directed shots from his gun and the light from his hickory

bark torch turned the wolves back, and we, half dead, proceeded to the tavern, where the good landlady did everything that she could to cheer us up and make us comfortable. Mr. and Mrs. Fowler (tavern keepers) were brave, kind, good-hearted people. They had learned to watch for me on my trips, and when I was late that night, they were listening to catch some sound of me.....when they heard the howl of the wolves, and our cry for help."

With such possibilities ever before the mail carrier he would probably not venture forth on a journey heavily encumbered with mail. He probably had no facilities for carrying much of other than first-class mail. And newspaper post, with its penny a pound rate, would hardly have been in the dreams of the most imaginative publisher of that day. In fact, conditions in general, and particularly in transportation, were distinctly disadvantageous for the publisher and journalist of that period. With the coming of the cable, telegraphic and railway systems, however, came the era of the newspapers; and in matters of journalism Fulton county has a record of progress as creditable as that of any other northwestern Ohio county. The people of Fulton county have been quite as ready to support good journals as have been the readers of other territories; and they have been quite as willing to recognize and appreciate in a practical way the efforts of capable editors. There are ten weekly, or semi-weekly, newspapers now being issued regularly in Fulton county, and some have been long established. While most of the publishers have to avail themselves to some extent of the ready print of the national newspaper services, only one newspaper is printed entirely outside of Fulton county. Most of the publishing houses have good printing plants, and all with two exceptions have in their equipment modern linotype machines.

The county has developed many capable journalists and editors, and the newspaper has probably been the most important factor in the public life of the county. The light of the conscientious print has done much to illumine the darkness that formerly obscured political maneuverings; has lent its power to light the way through the hazy dawn of many a worthy public project; has given its columns freely to pass, from friend to friend, news of the daily happenings of communal life; and generally the newspaper has been that bond which has bound the people of Fulton county, pioneers and children of pioneers, in loyal co-operative comradeship, all working to maintain in fertility and profitable yield the territory they, or their fathers before them, won to fertility from the waste lands—from the wilderness and the swamp. And all of them proud and gratified to realize that the co-operative labors of themselves, and their forebears, have wrought such a wonderful change in the, at one time, uninhabitable region. The newspapermen have been pioneers; have had part in the pioneer work; have spread the news of pioneer efforts, and thus have stimulated others in the work. And although their hands have more often been black with printer's ink than with the soil of the Black Swamp, their part in the pioneer building of Fulton county has nevertheless been meritorious, self-sacrificing, and in most cases arduous. The earnest and capable newspapermen of Fulton county of today are well-known, and the subscription lists give good indication of their respective personal standing with the people of the county. Therefore, it

is not the purpose of this chapter to, in particular, eulogize the several worthy editors of Fulton county of today. But no historical review of journalism in Fulton county would be complete that made no reference to the notable record of the late James Hunter Sherwood, who for nearly fifty years was an editor and newspaper publisher in Fulton county. From 1861 until his death in 1913, James H. Sherwood was connected with the Wauseon "Republican" and for the greater part of that period was its editor and owner. A local newspaper wrote of him, shortly after his decease:

"Since 1865, he has.....wielded an influence in the political and social life of the community and the county. Firm in his convictions, yet kindly and tolerant in his attitude toward those who differed from him, he was highly esteemed.....and there was no one man in the county better known than was Mr. Sherwood. During the past twenty years he has rarely, if ever, been absent from the town; and every day his has been a familiar figure on the streets, or at his place of business.....Another of the old guard of pioneers who have put their lives into the building of our community has gone."

His brother, General Isaac R. Sherwood, gained greater national prominence, but James Hunter Sherwood has a more notable place among the pioneers of Fulton county. He lived among them practically throughout his life; disliked to leave home on any pretext; and "in season and out lauded the beauty and worth of the people and soil and products of Fulton county." He came into the county at a time when newspaper enterprises were few and of brief continuance; and his was the hand that stabilized the press of Fulton county. He was particularly active; ran a printing plant for his brother at Bryan at the same time as he was building a good Fulton county newspaper; and also found time for the duties of the Probate office at Bryan during his brother's absence in military service. He was active to the end, the apoplectic seizure which ended his life being probably attributable to his activity in superintending the unloading of a truckload of wood into his barn. His wife, Matilda (Yates) Sherwood, who died in Wauseon, in 1918, might also be included in the Press record, for during her sixty years of residence in Wauseon, during which time her husband and her sons owned the "Republican," she must have had close connection with, and perhaps to some extent guided, the newspaper policy of her husband. She "was loved and respected by all who knew her"; was a charter member of the Woman's Relief Corps, and an ardent church worker, member of Wauseon Methodist Episcopal Church.

Chronologically, the history of the newspapers of Fulton county begins with the "Fulton County Democrat," a six-column folio paper, established in the winter of 1851-52, in Delta by Lewis W. Stum, the enterprise passing twelve months later to Frank Rosenberg. The county seat was at Ottokee then, and to that centre Mr. Rosenberg transferred the office of the paper soon after it came into his possession. A few months later, however, he disposed of his interest in it to J. W. Carter and H. B. Bayes. Within six months H. B. Bayes was sole owner and editor of the "Democrat," but apparently he did not long continue as editor, for records show that a Mr. Topliff had

held the newspaper under lease, from Mr. Bayes, for some time prior to the spring of 1856, when the paper and plant was removed from Ottokee to Morenci, Michigan.

Twelve months or so after the founding of the "Fulton County Democrat," another Delta newspaper came into being. Lewis W. Stum founded in 1852-53 the "Delta Independent Press." A few months later, however it passed from him, being acquired by Martin H. Butler, who was one of the first school examiners of the county. Not long afterwards he sold the paper to William Stum and James K. Newcomer, who remained in partnership for several years. Eventually Peter James bought Stum's interest. The paper had belied its name for several years prior to the outbreak of the Civil war, and instead of being non-partisan, or independent, it had been strongly Democratic in its editorial policy. And although the paper was issued regularly until the early 60s, its circulaiton had dwindled; so much so that its subscription list became insignificant, and the owners eventually had to suspend publication. The material and stock passed into the hands of a former owner, Martin H. Butler, who removed the plant to Wauseon, shortly afterwards using it in the publication of a weekly paper, named the "Fulton County Democrat," which journal however had no connection with the former publication of like name. The "Fulton County Democrat" soon passed from Martin H. Butler to William Aultman, but its life was brief, for within a few weeks soldiers, home on furlough, took umbrage at its attitude on the great and vital national question of that trying period, when the feelings and opinions of loyal citizens were abnormally sensative and emphatic, and they vented their displeasure by wrecking the plant, strewing the roadway with its material.

Next in order of establishment must be placed the Wauseon "Republican," which has continued in circulation for sixty-five years. Strictly, it was the third newspaper to be established in the county; but it may be claimed for it that it was the first newspaper of consequence to be established; and its continuance in regular publication, in high moral and literary standard, and in its aim to give direct home news and county happenings prior place in its columns instead of featuring national or international news, now gains the "Republican" distinctive place as the oldest and foremost home journal of the county. The personality of the editor is generally clearly reflected in the columns of the paper. And those who have followed Mr. Reighard, present editor and owner of the "Republican," in his editorial direction of the "Tribune" and latterly of the "Republican," must have noted the marked respect, almost reverence, Mr. Reighard has for the pioneers of the county; for the men who gave their lives to hard discouraging labor in unhealthy surroundings and precarious living, and eventually made for their sons and their posterity a rich productive area of what once was swamp and wilderness. The pioneers have given statesmen, legislators, jurists, and many able educators to the state and nation, but predominately the pioneers of Fulton county have been home builders. And a motor trip through the county must convince an observer that the farm homes of Fulton county are homes of comfort and prosperity. The paper now edited and owned by

Mr. Frank H. Reighard may be said to have had its inception in 1855, when, as the "Sentinel," it first came into being. The "Sentinel" was established by H. B. Bayes and John J. Hunter. It was the pioneer Republican paper, and soon took front rank among the newspapers of the county. Not along after it was established H. B. Bayes became sole owner and editor. Two years later he sold to A. E. Ball, who soon afterwards disposed of his interests to E. W. Fuller, who twelve months later took John D. Devor, of Elkhart, Indiana, into partnership. Within a few months however the paper reverted to Mr. Fuller. On January 1, 1858, the name of the paper became "North-Western Republican," and it was increased in size from a six to a seven column folio. About six months later J. D. French acquired a part-interest in the "Republican," and early in 1859 the Fuller interest was purchased by Isaac R. Sherwood, of Bryan, Williams county, Ohio. Although at that time only twenty-four years old, Isaac R. Sherwood had had quite a notable career. Orphaned in early boyhood, he, a farmer's son, somehow struggled through school; became a teacher; attended a law course, qualifying as an attorney; took up printing in Youngstown, setting type for the Mahoning County Register; became editor and owner of the Williams County Leader, at Bryan when twenty-two years old; was elected probate judge when twenty-four; and a year later became mayor of Bryan. So that much was expected of the "Northwestern Republican" when he became identified with it. The co-partnership of French and Sherwood continued until early in 1861, when Mr. Sherwood became sole owner. Very shortly afterwards however came the national event which so greatly changed the career of so many men throughout the country, north and south. A newspaper article, written in 1915, stated that Isaac R. Sherwood, in 1861, when mayor of Bryan, was the first man in northwestern Ohio to enlist in the Union Army. He enlisted in the grade of private. He closed his military career as a brigadier-general, brevetted by Lincoln for repeated distinguished service. He took part in forty-two battles and engagements. And the subsequent career of General Sherwood has also been notable. He served two terms as Secretary of State of Ohio (1868 and 1870); was elected to United States Congress from the Toledo District in 1872; became probate judge in 1878, and again in 1881; and many times since he has been a member of Congress; in fact, although now eighty-five years old, he is still in office, and still active. Although his hair is snow-white, his carriage is erect; "he carries his six feet straight as a young hickory, and his 220 pounds like a man of forty-five." Truly a worth-while life has been that of Gen. Isaac R. Sherwood, who is entitled to place, as an early editor, in Fulton County Press records.

Upon the enlistment of Isaac R. Sherwood in the Union Army in 1861, his brother, James, assumed the management and editorial control of the "Northwestern Republican." In 1862, James H. Sherwood, acting for his brother, bought the "Fulton County Union," which paper had been established in Wauseon early in that year by Mr. French, a former associate of Isaac R. Sherwood. The papers were merged, and took the name of the longer-established journal, the "Northwestern Republican," which throughout that year, or for the greater part thereof, continued to advocate forcefully the ideals of

the republican party. In the latter part of 1862, or early in 1863, the paper was leased to Joseph Cable. The leasing proved somewhat unfortunate, for by tactless writing or indifferent support, Mr. Cable lost the confidence of the republican party leaders, and the official printing of the party in the county was taken from him, and placed with the Ottokee "Monitor," a journal established in June, 1863, by H. B. Bayes. Therefore, the Sherwood family was glad when Mr. Cable's lease expired, and the paper again came under their control. That probably was early in 1864, for it was in that year that James H. Sherwood purchased the Ottokee "Monitor," and consolidated it with the "Northwestern Republican." In 1865, James H. Sherwood became sole owner, having purchased the office and material from his brother, Isaac R., who was still in military service; and under his able management the paper was re-established in official favor, and the circulation gradually rebuilt. In 1867, Gen. Isaac R. Sherwood again became owner of the paper. A year later, he took Col. Albert B. Smith, a printer, the partnership continuing until 1869. Colonel Smith was well-known in Fulton county, and was destined to have connection with the county Press for about thirty years. In 1859 he had entered the employ of Fuller and French, who then owned the "Northwestern Republican." He responded to the first call for troops in 1861, and in 1865 closed his military career with a brevet-lieutenant-colonelcy. For eleven years from 1867, he was part-owner of the "Northwestern Republican," in 1878 being elected Clerk of the Courts, which office he held for nine years. In 1883 he, with J. H. Fluhart, founded the "Fulton County Tribune," with which paper he was identified until within a few months of his death, in 1890. Colonel Smith "was a man of genial nature, endowed with agreeable traits that won him many friends." He became a partner of James H. Sherwood in 1869, the latter having purchased Gen. Isaac R. Sherwood's interest in the "Northwestern Republican." The paper had a wide circulation through the county, and an extensive exchange list, and was undoubtedly the leading weekly journal of the county, and was recognized by the republican party, as a factor of much influence, in its steadfast adherence to the highest principles of the party. In 1877, Mr. Sherwood purchased Colonel Smith's interest, and for four years thereafter was sole owner. In 1881, a part interest was acquired by E. M. Ogle. The latter, a few months later sold to W. C. Williams, who held co-partnership with Mr. Sherwood for fifteen years. In 1896, James H. Sherwood again became sole owner, soon afterwards however admitting his sons into partnership. As James H. Sherwood and Sons, the publishing house continued to regularly issue the paper, the name of which had become the "Wauseon Republican," until December 10, 1917, when Frank H. Reighard, who for three terms had been state representative, and formerly was for seven years owner and editor of the "Fulton County Tribune," purchased the Sherwood interests. Since that date, Mr. Reighard has given his whole time and effort to the rendering of a good newspaper service in the "Republican." That he has succeeded is evident in the growth of the mailing list of the paper. In two years Mr. Reighard more than doubled the number of subscribers to the "Republican," and the list is continually being added to. A some-

what similar experience followed Mr. Reighard's advent as editor of the "Tribune" in 1903. Undoubtedly the "Wauseon Republican," under Mr. Reighard's editorial control and management is a live home journal, aiming to render, chiefly, news of home, village, township, and county, and not seeking to cover the state, national and world events recorded by the daily newspapers, which of course also in these days find their way into most Fulton county homes.

The second newspaper to be established in Ottokee, which was then the county seat, was the "Signal," the first issue of which was in the summer of 1856. It only ran however for about six months, its editor-owner, T. D. Montgomery, being a Williams county man, editor of the "Star of the West," of Montpelier. He perhaps was not sufficiently interested in Fulton county to make his paper forceful. At all events, at the end of six months, he removed his printing material to Montpelier, Williams county.

In the following year, 1857, another Ottokee paper was founded. It was named the "Democrat," and was owned by Henry McElhiney, who conducted it from spring to autumn, when H. Day became owner. Formerly its policy had been independent, but under Mr. Day it became a democratic paper, and its name became the "Fulton County Mirror." About twelve months later, the plant and paper were purchased by the owners of the Wauseon "Sentinel," the material being taken to Wauseon, and the paper merged in the "Sentinel."

The representative democratic paper of Fulton county is the "Democratic Expositor" of Wauseon. It was founded in January, 1875, by William H. Handy, later a prominent jurist of Fulton county. In April, 1877, the paper passed to John C. Bollmeyer. Until his death, twenty-one years later, Mr. Bollmeyer held editorial control of the "Expositor," and adhered faithfully to the best principles of the democratic party. He had very many friends in Fulton county, and under his management the paper was a success, financially and as a news journal. It was continued in publication by his estate for some months after his demise, passing eventually, by purchase, to W. W. Croninger, a former county auditor. He carried forward the paper satisfactorily until 1910, when he sold it to E. L. Burgoon. On April 26, 1912, the "Expositor" came into the possession of its present editor, H. T. Meister, of a pioneer German Township family. Mr. Meister still retains the editorship, but early in 1920 admitted into junior partnership, C. M. Gibbs and H. M. Jay, the latter being prominent in educational matters, at present holding the position of superintendent of Supervision District No. 2, under the Fulton County Board of Education, and also being president of the Fulton County Board of School Examiners. The "Democratic Expositor" is a well-established weekly newspaper, having almost an exclusive field.

The "Delta Avalanche," an independent paper, made its appearance in 1876, the first number being issued on February 22nd of that year by E. L. Waltz, who thus began a creditable connection with Fulton county journalism which did not terminate until more than thirty years later. In 1879, Mr. Waltz sold the "Avalanche" to Col. Albert B. Smith, under whom its policy became distinctly republican. Colonel Smith a year later sold to E. J. Patch, who after about a similar period sold to W. O. Knapp, under whom the paper again

became non-partisan in tone. It again became partisan, and republican, in 1884, when Mr. J. H. Fluhart exchanged his half-interest in the "Fulton County Tribune" for Mr. Knapp's ownership of the "Avalanche." About three years later, Mr. Fluhart disposed of the paper to its original owner, E. L. Waltz, who merged it with the "Delta Atlas," which he had established in 1885. The first issue of the "Delta Atlas" was on June 6th, 1885, the partners, E. L. Waltz, editor, and C. R. P. Waltz, manager, father and son respectively, trading as the Atlas Printing Company, and rapidly building a large subscription list for their paper, which was of independent tone, and high standard. Fire destroyed the plant early in 1887, but the publication was only temporarily suspended, resuming as soon as new material had been procured. In that year the "Delta Atlas" absorbed the "Avalanche," and from that time until the present the Delta "Atlas" has been in the forefront of Fulton county newspapers. The principals, father and son, both gained enviable repute as public servants and citizens, and although the father, E. L. Waltz, has not been directly interested in the publishing since 1906, when the son, C. R. P. Waltz, became editor and sole owner, he is still indirectly connected with the paper, contributing occasionally to its columns. Both father and son have had prominent part in the affairs of Delta during the last three or four decades. The paper is an eight page one, sixty-four columns, mostly home print; and the principals have the confidence of both readers and advertisers; so much so in fact that local advertisers have for many years been in the habit, it has been stated, of leaving the matter of advertising space to the discretion and judgment of Mr. Waltz, the editor, confident that he would not give a half-page or more to an advertisement that merited in importance only four or five inches. It is understood that the present circulation of the "Delta Atlas" is 2,100.

In January, 1876, a weekly newspaper was established at Fayette, under the name of the "Fayette Record." W. A. Baker was the founder, but within a month the publication was acquired by O. M. Holcomb and M. Lewis, who were its owners until May, 1878, and G. W. Griffin purchased the Holcomb interest. Fire destroyed the plant on May 8, 1880, but two months later publication of the "Record" was resumed, and the printing plant re-established. The owners of the "Record" were enterprising, and gained the distinction of being the first publishers in the county to introduce a cylinder press. In 1882, the publishers erected a substantial two-story frame building in which to house their printing plant, but that building also, within a year, was gutted by fire. The "Record" was then of course suspended but publication was resumed a month later. A few years later John Young, of Wauseon, purchased the paper and plant, and continued to publish it until 1903. John S. Young was another of the worthwhile newspaper men who graduated from the "Republican." He was connected with Fulton county newspapers and printing plants for thirty years; was in the "Sentinel" plant in 1853. He died in Fayette in 1905, two years after he had passed the "Record" over to his son, Frank C., who continued to regularly issue the paper until 1907, when it was absorbed by the Fayette "Review," which paper had been established six years earlier by C. E. Yost and E. W. Balch. In 1901 Balch sold his interest to his partner, and Editor Yost has

since that time faithfully labored to provide for his subscribers a worth-while weekly. The acquirement of the "Record" in 1907 added considerably to the circulation of the "Review," which has since been the recognized organ of the people of the Fayette section of the county. Mr. Yost is a forceful writer, and the "Fayette Review" is perhaps chiefly distinctive among the newspapers of the county because of the length and strength of its editorials, which reflect the editor's sincerity, ability, and broad-mindedness.

The "Fulton County Tribune," which was established on May 18, 1883, was, it is stated, the outgrowth of a divided sentiment in the ranks of the republican party. Its founders were Col. A. B. Smith and J. H. Fluhart, the latter disposing of his interest in the paper, in June, 1884, to W. O. Knapp, who owned the Delta "Avalanche," as hereinbefore stated. In 1889 Walter J. Sherwood purchased the Knapp interest, and within a year became sole owner. Two years later, on August 29, 1892, the paper became the property of Levi S. Jameson, who for fourteen prior years had been editor-owner of the "Observer," at Celina, Ohio. He owned the "Tribune" until 1902, and for the remainder of his life, which ended in 1911, lived in Wauseon, in the affairs of which community he took interested part. During his ownership of the "Tribune," he built the Tribune Building, and in many ways was an active useful citizen. He sold his paper and printing plant in March, 1902, to James L. Shinnabarger, who managed the business until January 1, 1903, when it passed into the possession of Frank H. Reighard, who was editor-owner until August, 1910, during which period the subscription list grew considerably; in fact the circulation of the "Tribune" was more than doubled during Mr. Reighard's regime as editor. He gave the people of the county a good news service in the "Tribune," and when they sought to send him as their representative to the State Legislature, he aimed to give them equally good service as a legislator. Thus he was influenced to sell the "Tribune" paper and plant in August, 1910, to Frank B. Kenyon and Catherine B. Weir. Mr. Kenyon, who was formerly pastor of the Congregational Church in Wauseon, and still is one of its most prominent members and workers, has since 1910 been editor of the "Tribune," and he has well maintained its former high standard. On October 6, 1919, Miss Weir sold her part interest in the publishing house to Robert J. Bissonette, upon his return from overseas service with the American Expeditionary Forces. First Sergeant Robert J. Bissonette, a printer, was formerly on the "Tribune" staff, and was a member of the first detachment that left Fulton county, in 1917, for service in the national army. He saw most of the strenuous fighting in which the American forces participated in France; was with the Thirty-eighth Infantry, of Third Division, at Chateau Thierry, passed through the terrible Argonne fighting, and on almost to Metz, before the signing of the Armistice ended hostilities. Later for eight months he was with the Army of Occupation in Germany, during the greater part of that time being foreman in the plant of an Army of Occupation organ, "The Watch on the Rhine," a creditable publication.

Next to the "Fulton County Tribune" in date of establishment comes the "Archbold Herald," which was founded by W. O. and J. M.

Taylor, in 1885. A year later W. O. Taylor bought the interest held by his brother, J. M., and thereafter until 1893 was editor-owner. He then sold the paper and plant to George O. Dix, who some time later sold to E. W. Ames. In about 1898, the paper was suspended for a brief period, during change of ownership, but resumed publication, and continued as the "Archbold Herald" until May, 1898, when it was consolidated with the "Archbold Advocate," then owned by J. E. Hutchinson and E. E. Hallett, and founded by them a year prior to the consolidation. The merged papers took the name of the "Archbold Advocate," Mr. Hallett taking the editorship. Two years later he became sole owner, and has since held the paper in successful circulation. The circulation is now almost a thousand copies weekly, and the paper gets its proper proportion of advertisements of business houses in its territory. The "Advocate" was originally non-partisan; later it was democratic in tone; but since 1916 it has been what might be termed American in its policy, Editor Hallett believing that such a political party will eventually be formed. Mr. Hallett has been connected with journalism in Fulton county for almost a generation, is a practical printer, and a conscientious editor.

In 1886 a foreign-language newspaper was established in Fulton county. It, "Der Deutsche Gazette," circulated among residents of German antecedents or birth; but its life was brief.

In 1886 also the "Swanton Enterprise" was founded. A year later its owner, H. S. Bassett, took as partner Charles H. Rowland. After several changes of ownership, the paper passed, in 1916, from A. Hochstrasser to Cooney and Cullis, its present owners. They are young aggressive men, and are issuing a good local weekly, a seven-column eight-page paper, non-partisan in tone. The partners also have a well-equipped job plant.

The "Metamora Record" was established in February, 1900, by E. A. Brooks, who about three years later sold to J. J. A. Parker, of Sylvania, Ohio. J. J. Malone was local representative and editor for several years, and the paper was eventually sold to Thomas Daly, of Adrian, Michigan. Two years ago Mr. Daly removed the printing plant from Adrian to Metamora, and in July, 1919, Clyde H. McComb became owner of the paper and plant. The present circulation is about six hundred copies.

Mr. W. O. Taylor, who in 1885 founded the Archbold "Herald," began to issue the "Archbold Buckeye," in 1905. He, is still its owner and editor, and the paper has the distinction of being the only semi-weekly now published in the county. At one time the "Democratic Expositor," of Wauseon, was published twice weekly, but when shortage of news print during the World war made the lot of newspaper publishers somewhat worrysome the "Expositor" became a weekly, and has so remained. The "Buckeye" however has maintained its semi-weekly issuing, and Mr. Taylor has a good following. The paper is non-partisan in politics, and strives to keep its home town well to the front. Mr. Taylor is among the capable editors of the county.

At one time there was a "Lyons Herald," and in 1913 the "Lyons Journal" was established by two newspaper men of Toledo. They, however, only issued the paper for three weeks, then selling to H. D. Meister, editor of the "Democratic Expositor" of Wauseon. He has

maintained the "Lyons Journal" in regular issue to the present, the paper being printed on the press of the "Expositor." It is non-partisan in policy.

From a reading of this chapter it will be realized that Fulton county, peopled by less than thirty thousand, is well supplied with newspapers; and it is somewhat surprising that the majority of them are profitable business enterprises; that is to say, comparatively so, for a newspaper publisher and editor rarely gets a properly adequate return for the long hours of manual and mental labor he has to give weekly to conscientiously cover the news needs of his subscribers. As a matter of fact, the average country newspaper is sold at a lower rate than the production costs justify, and the papers published would be fewer, were it not possible for the publisher to glean some additional revenue from the outside job work that he is usually able to handle in his printing plant. The newspaper editor is, as a rule, not one of the wealthiest men of the community, but he certainly has it in his power to become one of its most useful members; and if he conscientiously works for what he considers to be the good of his community he is generally accorded a substantial degree of respect by his fellow-citizens. With such a possession the earnest editor is content to labor on.

CHAPTER XI

THE HISTORY OF CLINTON TOWNSHIP

Including That of Wauseon, the County Seat

Prior to 1820, Clinton Township area was recognized as Indian Territory. On April 1, 1820, by enactment of the Legislature of the State of Ohio, it became part of Wood county, which status it held until July, 1835, when Lucas county was organized, part of which it then became. It was unorganized territory, however, until March 5, 1838, when the commissioners, in session at Toledo, established it as Clinton Township. It is bounded north, east, and west by the townships of Dover, York and German, of Fulton county, respectively, and on the south by Henry county; and it has become the principal township of the county, in that it includes the incorporated village of Wauseon, the county seat.

One good authority, who was then living in the vicinity, and is still alive, states that the organization did not take place until 1841, and the first election was consequently not held in 1838; but his version is not substantiated by any other record. Three historians have recorded the date of organization as March 5, 1838, and Clark Waggoner, in his "History of Toledo and Lucas County" (1888), in the chapter on "County Affairs," page 314, states: "March 5, 1838. The Townships of Gorham and Clinton (now in Fulton county) were established." Although the township early records are not now in existence, at least one official document is available to bear out the general understanding that Clinton Township was organized prior to 1841. The instrument referred to is a copy of a receipt, now in the possession of the Bayes family. It reads:

Clinton Township School Fund.

Received Jan. 1840, by E. Huntington for Isaac Tedrow	$31,217
Township poor fund	1,832
Township road fund	3,666
	$36,715

Isaac Tedrow, Dr. to E. Huntington, for settling with Auditor and bringing the money from Toledo, O. $3.50

As the territory was laid out, as Clinton Township, by the Lucas County Commissioners, on March 5, 1838, it may be assumed that the settlers took early opportunity to effect the formal organization, and that the statement that the first election in the township was held on the first Monday of April, 1838, is correct.

It is not possible to state, confidently, who was the first white settler in the territory, but it is, clear that 1835 was the first year in which

settlers came into it to establish homes therein. Some historians have given Elisha Williams, who came in October, 1835, the distinctive place as the pioneer settler, but it seems that Thomas Bayes was also in the township in 1835; and that Thomas Lingle, a bachelor, came into it at about the same time as Elisha Williams; and Rufus Briggs, writing in 1903, of "Pioneer Days," stated that "Elisha Huntington and family came from the state of New York by wagon, and drove the first pair of horses and wagon, into the township in 1835," adding incidentally that "while clearing away a place for the foundation of his log house, he killed forty-one blue racers and black snakes."

Elisha Williams, and his son John H., came in the early fall, and built a log hut in what was designated the "Six Mile Woods." That accomplished, father and son returned to Seneca county, Ohio, but two months later, in December of 1835, Elisha Williams was again in the

"ELISHA HUNTINGTON KILLED.....41 BLUE RACERS, AND BLACK SNAKES" IN CLEARING GROUND FOR HIS LOG CABIN.

Six Mile Woods, accompanied this time by his whole family, consisting of his wife, at least four adult children, and at least one younger child. The adult sons were John H., Jerry, and Burt; there was a daughter, who in 1838 married Thomas Lingle; the younger child was William F., then a boy of six years. He, who later became known throughout the county by the military title of Captain, and honored as a veteran of worthy record during the Civil War, wrote his "Experiences in the Days of Long Ago," in 1908, his narrative, in part reading:

"I was only six years old when I came with my father, Elisha Williams, in the fall of 1835, and settled on a farm one and a half miles west of here (Wauseon). That was nearly seventy-five years ago, and in what is now Clinton Township there was not then another white man living. It was a dreary place then, and nothing but woods and water, and the only company we had were the friendly Indians, and the howling wolves. I can well remember how, along about sun-down on a cold winter's day, we could hear those wolves set up their yelp.

First, you would hear one in one direction, then one in another, and so on, until our home was surrounded by packs of these howling beasts. Fortunately for the early settler, the wolf was naturally a coward, and a firebrand or a light has saved many a flock of sheep for the pioneer. You know in those days every settler had to have his own sheep, from which to get wool that our dear old mothers could make into clothes for us. Every stitch of clothing that us children had was made from cloth that mother first wove from wool from the sheep. And in those days we had our high pens into which we drove our flock every night, to protect them from the wolves. The black bear was common here then, but they gave us very little trouble, and about the only time I ever remember of one attacking stock was a year or two after we came here. Father had a drove of hogs running at large in the woods, and,

"EVERY STITCH OF CLOTHING WE CHILDREN HAD.....MOTHER FIRST WOVE."

when they were about where George Brown's house now stands, a large bear that had crept into the drove attacked one of the largest, and while the hog got away it was so injured that it died a few days later.

"In 1835, and 1836, many Indians roamed over this county. In those days there was a small Indian town on what was generally known as the Zina Eager Farm, one and a half miles east of here, and a large town on what is now the Sam Foncannon Farm, while the chief lived on a little hill, in the west part of what is now Wauseon. This last statement is disputed by some of the early settlers, who claim that the chief lived in the north-east part of town, on a hill where the residence of the late Col. D. W. H. Howard now stands, but I am positive that when I first saw the chief's home it was in the west part of what is now Wauseon. The Indians were very friendly to us, in fact too friendly, as they often hindered us in our work. If you offended one Indian

you offended the whole tribe, while if you did one a favor it was never forgotten by any member of the tribe, and they always stood ready to defend and protect you.

"One morning, in the spring of 1836, father came into the house, and addressing mother said: 'I hear a white man chopping, over north of us.' Mother went to the door of our log cabin and listened, and said that she thought it was an Indian. Father said: 'No. Listen closely, and you can tell it is a white man chopping.' Father started in the direction from which the sound came, and after going about a mile to the north of our home came upon Avery Lamb, who was getting out timber to build a cabin. At that time father and Avery Lamb were the only white settlers in this township, but that fall and the next year settlers began to arrive quite rapidly."

The land upon which Elisha Williams and his family settled in 1835 was later acquired by Jacob Biddle, and was immediately south of the forty-acre farm owned eventually by Elijah Burr.

In substantiation of the claim that Elisha Williams was the first white settler in Clinton Township, it may be stated that although the "History of Henry and Fulton Counties" (1888) states that "Thomas Bayes and his wife, Lamenta, settled in Clinton Township in 1835, and resided on section twenty-two" and adds in further comment, that "Mr. Bayes and his wife still live to recount the experiences of those days," which comment would lead one to suppose that the compiler had obtained his information direct from Mr. Bayes, yet Elliot Bayes, grandson of Thomas and son of William W., but almost in the pioneer class himself, having been born in Clinton Township in 1840, is responsible for the assertion that "Thomas Bayes lived in York Township several years before moving to Clinton Township." Another chronicler stated that Elisha Huntington did not arrive until March of 1836.

Rufus Briggs, who spent much time in collecting historical data of Clinton Township, and was aided in such endeavors by Captain William F. Williams, son of Elisha, gives the last-named credit for having erected the first "house," built of logs, in the township, which house he states was erected on October 23, 1835, and was occupied by Elisha Williams and his family on December 22, 1835, this establishing Elisha Williams in first place among the "permanent" settlers of Clinton Township, yet Rufus Briggs makes the following statement regarding the coming of Avery Lamb:

"In the fall of 1835 Avery Lamb built a log cabin, about six by twelve feet, on land that he had bought of the government the previous July, and his cabin was situated on the west side of the township line between York and Clinton Townships, in which he wintered, and chopped off a small piece of land for spring crops. In the spring of 1836 Mr. Lamb returned to his home in Onondaga county, N. Y., and arrived with his family in June, 1836.... During this spring, '36, Mr. Lamb erected a hewed log house, which when chinked and daubed and whitewashed, presented a very comfortable and cheerful appearance, and was for many years a pleasant and hospitable home."

Presumably, therefore, the chopping Elisha Williams had heard in the spring of 1836 was that of timber for Avery Lamb's second log home. Regarding Avery Lamb's property, Rufus Briggs continued:

"Previous to 1847, all of Mr. Lamb's buildings were in Clinton

Township, and although after 1847 he built a home in York Township where he lived, his interests were closely identified with Clinton Township. Mr. Lamb built the first frame barn forty by sixty erected in this township. The whitewood lumber for the barn was procured from the McQuillin saw mill, near Delta, at $6.00 per 1,000 feet; nails cost $8.00 per 100 lbs; total cost of barn, as taken from memorandum, $143."

Between the coming of the first white settler in 1835, and the holding of the first township election, in 1838, many settlers had taken up land, nearly all of them purchasing from the government at $1.25 or $1.50 an acre. Besides those hereinbefore named, the pioneers who had settled in Clinton Township in or before 1838 were: William W. Bayes, Isaac Tedrow, Adam, William, James, and George Mikesell, Mary (Mikesell) Case, and her son, Thomas J. Case, then a boy of nine years, Meek Bayes, Horace Pease, John Losure, Sr., Erastus Briggs, Sr., Cyrus Coy, William Jones, Thomas McKibben, Jonathan Barnes, Asa Young, Samuel Beck, William Dye, Henry Krontz, St. B. Geer, S. B. Willey, Isaac Dowell, Holmes Bishop, Samuel Gould, Lewis and Samuel Eckhart, John Lillick, Jonathan Inman, Ebenezer Keiser, Philip Krontz, James Cornell.

The first election was held in the home of John Losure, Sr., and fifteen votes were cast, resulting in the election of officers as follows: Elisha Williams, justice of the peace: Thomas Bayes and Jonathan Barnes, trustees; and William Jones, Sr., clerk. Life in the wilderness was necessarily of the Spartan order, with much privation, and comparative isolation. Still, the settlers were, withal, happy. Rufus Briggs wrote: "There has been a good deal written on the hardships and privations of the early pioneers. There were a great many pleasures and enjoyments. At log house and barn raisings, logging bees, husking bees, when a new pioneer arrived, every one was ready and willing to lend a helping hand. The young people also had their enjoyments, such as coon hunting, spelling schools, and sometimes a dance; and for the music an old squeaky fiddle was the only fiddle used."

Of the subsequent activities of some of those pioneers of Clinton Township not much information is available. The Williams family, as a whole, has a creditable record, having cleared much of the acreage of Clinton and York Townships. John H. Williams, son of Elisha, bought from Henry Leist, in 1842, a tract of eighty acres of timber land, about two miles east of Wauseon. Not a foot had been cleared, and he cleared it, and lived his whole life upon it, the farm remaining in the family for seventy-six years, during which it had never been encumbered by mortgage. John H. Williams paid $215 for the land, which, when sold recently to H. R. Bonnell, realized more than $12,000. Elisha Williams became a prominent man of the township: Jerry Williams was one of the township's prosperous farmers and raised a worthy family, including Judge Ed. E. Williams, who died in 1913, and was for two terms probate judge of Fulton county; and Captain William F. Williams, who died in September, 1914, was during his last years an honored member of Losure Post, No. 35, of the G. A. R. He had to his credit a worthy Civil War record, as a commissioned officer of the Sixty-Eighth Ohio Volunteer Infantry from 1861 until the end of the war. Just prior to his death, he was elected president of the Fulton County Pioneer and Historical Society.

Elisha Huntington cleared a substantial acreage, and was an active citizen. One of his sons, William R., was later prominent in York Township. He was postmaster in Delta in 1887 and met a tragic death during the Fourth of July celebrations of that year. A sham battle was in process in the main street of Delta, the opposing forces, Confederate and Union, of course using blank cartridges. But a bullet struck Postmaster Huntington, as he stood near the post-office, viewing the encounter. He died within an hour.

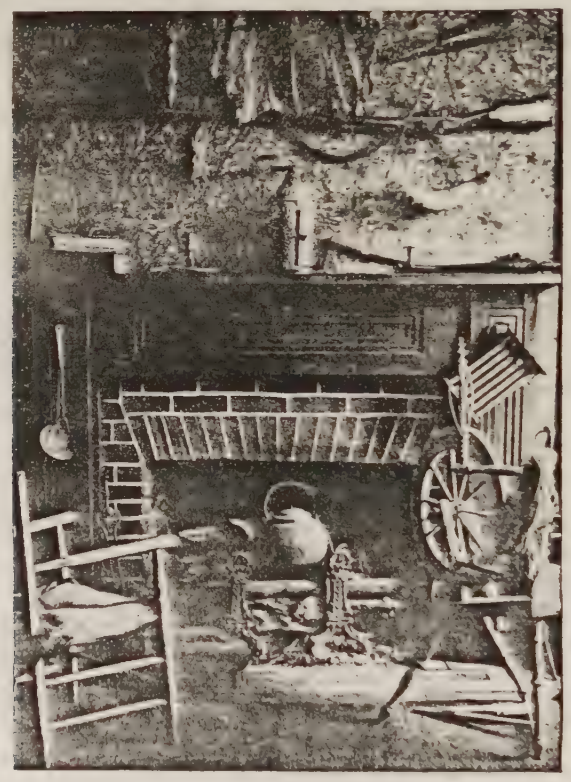
Avery Lamb, who brought his family into Clinton Township, in June of 1836, and with them settled in section 24, upon which he had previously erected a cabin (in the previous winter, stated Mikesell) lived a long life in the township. His end came suddenly, in April, 1874. He "dropped dead, while on the cars, at Broadwood Station, Illinois, about fifty miles west of Chicago." His remains were brought back to Wauseon, "in a beautiful casket and appropriate burial apparel" furnished by the Masonic fraternity. He was a charter member of the Wauseon Lodge, and had been interestedly active in much of the communal affairs of Wauseon and the township. He left a large family. His daughter Permelia, who was scarcely three years old when the family came to live in the wilderness, became the wife of Wauseon's pioneer doctor, Dr. D. W. Hollister, and she and her husband took up their abode in Wauseon as soon as its settlement began. She died in October, 1909, of typhoid fever. Her sister, Lucy, born in Clinton Township on June 11, 1837, and probably the third child to be born in the settlement, "developed a very social and genial disposition, and all her ways and manner were exemplary. She was the reigning belle in the community" averred Rufus Briggs. She married Harvey J. Eager, in 1866, and thereafter, until his death in 1898, lived in Wauseon. For some time afterwards she lived with her son in California and Washington. She was in San Francisco at the time of the great earthquake. She however died in Wauseon, where she was loved and fondly known as "Aunt Lucy Eager." Another daughter, Helen M., born in 1844, married Zina Eager in 1863, who later owned the Eager House at Wauseon. She died in 1898.

Thomas Bayes, Sr., was born in 1775, in Pennsylvania, and in 1820, came with his wife, Ann McMillen, into Ohio, settling in Holmes county. His wife died in 1836, and he then, according to one account, sold his farm and in 1837 came into Clinton Township. His son, Thomas, Jr., was however, seemingly, in Clinton Township in 1836, or before, in company with William Mikesell, his brother-in-law, these two young men making "entry of fourteen eighty-acre tracts, for themselves and certain friends, travelling much of the time on foot, as they had but one horse, which they rode alternately." Thomas Bayes, Sr., did the first blacksmithing in the township in 1838, in a little log shop about forty rods distant from the spot where eventually the residence of Elliot Bayes stood, and on the west side of the road. Thomas Bayes, Sr., was one of the first trustees of Clinton Township.

The Losure family had prominent part in the early administration of Clinton Township, and members of it were later honorably placed in Civil War records. Five brothers served the nation during that war, one giving his life. Mary Jane Losure was the first white female child born in the township, that event taking place on November 6,

1836. She lived in the township until 1888, then going to the home of her married daughter in Montana.

Isaac and Elizabeth Tedrow, with their many children, came from Holmes county, Ohio, in 1836, and settled on section nine. When the log schoolhouse, on section fifteen was opened for its first term, which was in 1839, there were six scholars on the register. Five were of the Tedrow family, Rachel, Catherine, Jeremiah, Isaiah and William, the sixth pupil being Christopher H. Losure. One of these children, Jeremiah Tedrow was destined to become "one of Clinton Township's most prominent farmers," and to meet a violent death in old age. In 1906, when seventy-seven years old, he was kicked by a colt, the injuries proving fatal.



"GEORGE MIKESELL BUILT A SUBSTANTIAL FIREPLACE FOR HIS LOG HOUSE."

In September, 1837, George Mikesell came from Holmes county, Ohio, and settled in Clinton Township. He was a brick mason by trade, and in 1838 put up a small kiln of brick, and eventually built a substantial fireplace and chimney for his log house. Thus, he may be given the credit of having been the first to manufacture brick in Clinton Township. George Mikesell died in 1840, on October 9th, and his wife, Mary Bayes, a week later. Their son, William, born 1810, married Mary, a daughter of Thomas Bayes, Sr., and although he was in the territory earlier, the time of the settling in Clinton Town-

ship of William Mikesell may be definitely placed as April, 1837, when he came with his parents, and the family, and took up the development of his land on section fourteen.

The experience of the average family in the first year of settlement was probably somewhat similar to that of the Mikesell family. It appears that the father and sons within a few days after their arrival erected a log cabin, and cleared about two acres of land in time for corn planting that season. By the fall, another five acres had been cleared, and sown to wheat, which in time gave them a satisfactory crop. Meanwhile they had lived on the flour they had brought with them in the previous year. And it must not be supposed that their diet lacked variety; there was rarely a scarcity of meat, deer, wild turkey and game being plentiful, and costing nothing but shot, while sugar, in the form of wild honey and fruits, was present in abundance. Which was fortunate, for a journey to the nearest market town, Maumee City,

"WILD TURKEY.....BEING PLENTIFUL AND COSTING NOTHING BUT SHOT."

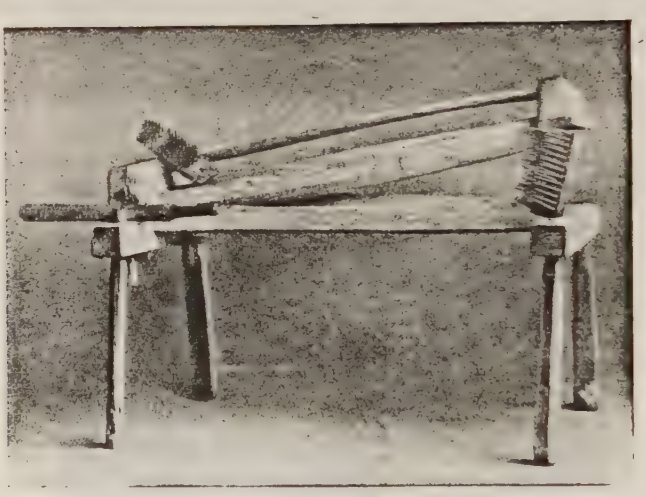
twenty-six to thirty miles distant, was an arduous undertaking, vehicles with difficulty travelling over the marshy roads through the county in those days. It took the Mikesells three weeks to make the journey in an ox-wagon, through the mud, from Holmes county to Fulton, or rather, as it then was, Lucas. Grain had to be hauled from Maumee City, where was the nearest mill. The Mikesells made some money by the curing of deer hams, and by the sale of furs, deer, mink and coon. In 1840, William Mikesell had enough skins to pay the purchase price of a horse.

John and Thomas Mikesell, sons of William, both saw service during the Civil War, John dying in the service in 1862. Thomas, in later life, developed a remarkably studious, methodical, and pains-taking

mode of life. For more than forty years he faithfully and extensively kept a meteorological record, and eventually was commended for his work by the national bureau. He was also a close student of ornithology, and his reports of bird migration eventually brought him associate membership of the American Ornithologists Union. He also was responsible for the publication of a history of Fulton county, published in volume form in 1905. He died in 1917, aged seventy-six years, having lived an active, useful, and diversified life.

It is not possible here to give extensive mention to all the pioneer families of Clinton Township. No history can possibly be complete, no matter how voluminous; and the historian must be governed in his narration by the space at his command.

William W. Bayes, who married Mary Tedrow in 1834, came into Clinton Township in September, 1837. He died in 1885, aged seventy-six years. His log cabin "was the home of the pioneer preachers, and



Flax Brake.

was for a time the church building. He was throughout his life a prominent worker for the Methodist Episcopal church. His son Isaac E., was born in the log cabin in 1843, about a mile west of the house in which he died in 1916, became a veteran of the Civil War. He had a rugged upbringing, but in a good Christian home. When the family first came into Ohio, they raised flax, from which Mrs. Bayes spun garments for her children. Later, when a little more prosperous, they reared sheep for the same purpose. Another son, well-known in Wauseon and vicinity practically throughout his life of sixty-five years, was Meek Bayes, who died in 1915.

The other son, Elliot, lived a useful and industrious life. He was in the Union army during the war, and for the rest of his life farmed part of his father's original homestead. Mary Tedrow Bayes, wife of William W., died in 1869.

Erastus Briggs, a man of superior education, and by profession a surveyor, was born in Maine, in 1814, and in 1835, came to Maumee City, where he resided until April 1, 1837, then coming to Clinton

Township. He purchased land from Elijah Huntington, and that transfer was probably the first recorded in the township. In the winter of 1838 Erastus Briggs taught school, the first opened in the township. In the next year, however, he returned to Maumee City, and there died in that year, being then forty-four years old. His widow returned to Clinton Township, and lived on the farm for almost fifty years, her death coming in 1898. Her son Rufus went to Kentucky, in 1847, and did not return until 1855, coming into Wauseon on the first passenger train that passed over the Lake Shore and Michigan Southern Railway. Rufus Briggs was later a successful business man of Wauseon.

Although the first transfer of land was that by Elisha Huntington, in 1837, when, on April 23d, for a consideration of $100, forty acres passed into the possession of Alanson Briggs, there had been some earlier handlings of land for speculation. The first entry of land in Clinton Township was made by David Andrews, on November 15, 1834. He entered the northwestern quarter of section thirty-five later known as the Abram Faulkner Farm.

"WENT ONTO THE RIVER BELOW WATERVILLE."

Elisha Huntington sold a further fifty acres of his land in section 25, receiving $100 for it, from Emulas Burdick, but he still had sufficient land in that section for his purpose. He cleared it and lived upon it until 1870, when death came to him at the age of seventy-four years. It seems that in October, 1836, the Rev. Uriel Spencer, an ordained minister of the Methodist Episcopal Church, preached a sermon in the cabin of Elisha Huntington. It was probably the first religious service held by a minister in Clinton Township. Uriel Spencer had been in ministerial charge in New York State, and had been forced to come "west" in search of health, and to recover the full volume of his voice, which had failed. But for many years he stayed in Fulton county, making his home in York Township, until he was elected auditor of Lucas county, when he moved to Maumee City. He married Mary Mikesell, widow of Mr. Case.

Henry Krontz settled in Clinton Township in 1836. Henry and

his wife Catherine (Hay) came from Holmes county, Ohio. Henry died in 1874, aged seventy-four years; his wife dying four years after they settled in Clinton Township. Their son, Emanuel, eventually served the nation during the Civil War, and another son, Jacob, was a prosperous farmer near Pettisville.

John O. Ensign settled on section 37, in 1839. Ultimately he disposed of his land to Naaman Merrill, and went "onto the river, below Waterville" to live.

Another temporary settler was John Dowell, who is believed not to have been even distantly related to Isaac Dowell. John Dowell settled on the south-west corner of section 32, in 1839. After living there for a year or so, he was taken to Columbus, to answer a criminal indictment, and did not again return to Fulton county.

Cyrus Coy had a blacksmith shop, on what was later known as the Judge Brown Farm, as early as 1839. And in about the same year, or earlier, Thomas Mikesell, Sr., had a smithy on the farm where later Daniel Clingaman lived. James Cornell eventually bought the Coy land, after which Cyrus moved a little to the Southwest.

William Jones was later familiarly known as "Long Bill" Jones. He was one of the pioneer school teachers.

Horace Pease was supposed to have settled prior to the first election, in 1838, but one record states that he did not come until 1842.

Elias Willey, son of S. B., was born in Clinton Township on February 23, 1840, and became a veteran of the famous Sixty-Seventh Regiment of Ohio Volunteer Infantry during the war. He died in 1914, having for almost forty years been a teamster in Wauseon. The G. A. R. post attended his funeral in a body.

John and Sarah Lillich raised a family of nine children, seven of whom were daughters. One, Mrs. Ellen Lillich Crew, who died in 1916, lived many years in Wauseon, and was an active member of Losure Woman's Relief Corps.

James and Margaret (Bayes) Cornell came to Clinton Township in 1837, from Wayne county, Ohio. They were formerly from New Jersey, where James was born in 1804. He died in 1880, twenty years after the demise of his wife, who was born in Pennsylvania. They had seven children, most of whom had prominent part in the development of Fulton county. Of their children, Charles W., is still alive and remarkably alert, mentally, notwithstanding that he is eighty-six years old. He was a veteran of the Civil War, and is the oldest resident of Clinton Township, and, in length of residence, of the county, also, probably. Relating his experiences, when they first came into the territory he said:

"What a journey it was from Tuscarawas county, through dense forests, fording streams, dodging swamps, meeting Indians, and at all times fighting malaria and fever. The entire distance was made by wagon, and took days of travel.....Where Wauseon now stands was one dense woods, with giant trees towering toward the sky, broken here and there by some pond. On the hill just south of the H. H. Williams mill was an Indian village and many a time have I played with the young Indians. It was in 1843 that the Indians left this part of the county, and a sad day it was for them to say good-bye to their old hunting ground.

"When we came to what is now Fulton county (in 1837) but three

white families lived in Clinton Township. They were: Elisha Williams, who owned a part of the section where my father located; Isaac Tedrow, who owned what is now the George Drennan Farm, northwest of Wauseon; and John Losure, who owned the Isaac Bayes Farm. In York Township lived Avery Lamb, one mile east of Wauseon, William Jones, at Emmerlings Corners; while William Fowler, Gilman Cheadle and Moses Wright were other settlers. In the fall of 1837 there was an influx of people. The Mikesell, Bayes, and Huntington families came and settled near what is now Wauseon, while John Knapp and John Markley located near West Barre."

Another worthy son of James Cornell was Jonathan C., four years the senior of Charles W. He served two terms as commissioner of Fulton county. He built the first grist mill in Wauseon, the flouring mill having a capacity of one hundred barrels a day. The other son, Thomas J., became a very enterprising and successful farmer in the county, well-known as a breeder of Clydesdale and Norman horses.

"A SAD DAY IT WAS TO THEM TO SAY GOOD-BYE TO THEIR OLD HUNTING GROUNDS."

In 1848, Elisha Williams built the first brick house constructed in the township. He made the brick himself from suitable clay deposits on his own land. And although George Mikesell, Sr., in 1838 erected a small kiln, large enough to meet the requirements of brick for his log-house chimney, and Shipman Losure, who came into the township in 1839, also began to make brick in 1840 or 1841, the industry was not carried on extensively until Elisha Williams made a large kiln, for his own purposes, in 1848. It seems rather singular that the pioneer of the township should, many years after it had become well settled, move on to other unsettled country, in another state, and leave all his friends of pioneer days, and almost all his children. That is what Elisha Williams did. He and his wife went further west, to unsettled parts, much after middle age had come to them. Elisha Williams died in October of 1864, aged sixty-six years, and his wife also died at about that time. Five of their sons and one daughter remained in Clinton Township. The daughter, Lucinda, was married to Thomas Lingle, by her father, who was a justice of the peace on January 7 , 1838. That

was the first marriage ceremony performed in the township: as a matter of fact, it took place before the formal organization of the township, and Elisha Williams must have held his office under the former administration.

It has been stated by two historians that Thomas Bayes was the first justice of the peace of Clinton Township; maybe he succeeded Elisha Williams, as justice, after the township had been organized. Unfortunately it is not possible to verify, as the township records have been destroyed.

The lot of the pioneer settler was not altogether an unpleasant one. If they were able to "tide over" the first year or two they were generally able to work along happily to ever-increasing comfort. One of the settlers in Clinton Township stated: "After the first two or three years of hardship for the advance guard in this wilderness there commenced a rapid influx of settlers, to whom vantage ground was given by the assistance of the first dwellers, who were always exceedingly hospitable and generous. The latch string of the pioneer's cabin was always out; and always a cut of venison, or a drum stick of wild turkey, and for dessert a nice Johnny cake, and possibly honey, was found in the larder of the good housewife for the weary and tired hunter. The more recent pioneers soon became used to the life of the frontiersman. They soon developed the push and energy which made up the intellectual fabric of the township. They were such men as Jacob, Mathias, and John Miley, John Gerringer, John Scott, Sr., Ebenezer Clark, John McBayes, Isaac Dowd, Alonzo Pike, William Harrison, Meek Bayes, Jesse and Israel Pocock, and many others."

And there is not one instance recorded of a hardworking settler failing to make for himself, eventually, a comfortable home out of the wilderness and swamp, which once constituted all that there was of Fulton county. They had little money, but they needed little. So much could be obtained from the bounties of wild life—from the bounties of God.

Among those who settled in Clinton Township from 1838 to 1850 were: Joseph Wells, Jacob First, John Newcomer, Ebenezer Clark, Jacob Funk, James Pease, John Conrad Hartman, Jacob and Mathias Miley, L. T. Morris, James Dunbar, Shipman Losure, John Linfoot, William Harrison, David Gorsuch, Nathaniel Gorsuch, William Hill, David Cantlebury, Eli Pocock and Jonas Batdorf. There were doubtless many others and just as worthy pioneers, but their records are not available at this writing.

William Fraker, who eventually took up land on section 18 of Clinton Township, came to Fulton county in 1835, but lived at first in York Township.

Joseph Wells came in 1838; Jacob First came in 1841, or 1842, probably in the latter year, for "soon after he came" he married Lucinda, daughter of Smith and Orlinda Geer, who settled in 1840. They were married in 1842.

In the early forties, John Conrad Hartman came in from Richmond, Virginia, via Maumee. He bought a tract of land almost on the line of Dover Township, but in Clinton. In 1852 he traded that farm to Jefferson Case, for eighty acres, situated about two miles west of Wauseon. Charles Hartman now lives on the property. More regarding the family will be found in the second volume of this work.

Another Hartman family came and settled in Clinton Township in the 'forties. The family was headed by John Hartman, Sr., a worthy pioneer. He was born in 1800 and died in 1850. His wife, Catherine Winters, died in 1865. Both came from Wurtemburg, Germany, to America in 1831, settling in Fairfield county, Ohio. With their children, they came to Clinton Township, and took land near where Wauseon eventually was platted. They had eleven children. Of the latter, Jacob became a Civil War soldier, and John, Jr., in 1853 bought the farm of ninety-five acres, near Wauseon, upon which he lived until his death in 1905. He paid $250 for the ninety-five acres, worth probably almost that much for one acre in this day. Such has been the value carved, or more literally hewn, out of the wilderness by the axe of the pioneer.

Ebenezer Clark, and his wife, Mary Dye, settled in Clinton Township in 1841, coming from Holmes county, Ohio. They settled on an eighty-acre tract, for which Ebenezer paid $200. They also had eleven children, most of whom were born in Fulton county. Their son, John A. was born in 1829. He married Elizabeth Krontz in 1854, and became a very progressive and successful farmer in Clinton Township. He died in 1890.

Jacob Funk and his wife, Rachel, came in 1843. They were both pioneer members of the Church of Christ denomination in Clinton Township, and both were charter members of the Wauseon First Christian Church, founded in 1862. Rachel Funk died in 1898. Festus Funk, born in 1854, died in Wauseon in 1917, honored as a veteran of the Civil War, and a worthy member of the Wauseon church. One of the daughters of Jacob Funk married Elder L. L. Carpenter, one of the pioneer preachers of that church in Fulton county, and also prominent in county affairs.

John Newcomer and family came in 1844, and settled upon land which later, as Newcomer's Addition, came within the boundaries of the village of Wauseon. The Newcomers were typical pioneers. John, son of Jacob, and grandson of Ulrich, was born in 1807, states the family genealogy. He married Naomi Debolt in 1831; moved to Holmes county, Ohio, in 1837; and in 1844 moved "to the unsettled regions of Western Ohio, and settled in what was then Lucas, but now is Fulton county, and carved out a home from the forests where afterwards was located the town of Wauseon." He died in Wauseon fifty-six years later, and an obituary gives the following information: "In the early spring of 1844 he came west, purchased 160 acres of wild land where now (1890) is embraced Newcomer's Addition to Wauseon, and the Northwestern Fair Grounds, and before returning to his eastern home let a contract to clear off three acres of ground across the street and in front of his late residence. In May, 1844, he loaded up a wagon with household effects, and left Holmes county for the new home in the west. The cavalcade consisted of: a covered wagon, drawn by two horses; one extra saddle horse; two cows; two or three head of young heifers; eight or ten head of sheep; father, mother, four children (one a babe of four weeks) and three other people. The trip was made in nine days." George D. Newcomer, who is still living in Wauseon, was the babe of four weeks of that trip. He says that his mother rode their saddle horse, and presumably carried him also. The eldest of the four children was Solomon, then

twelve years old. The two elder boys and their sister made the journey on foot driving the cattle and sheep. The obituary of John Newcomer continues:

"The day after that on which they landed at the William Bayes homestead, Father Newcomer and his two boys, armed with axes, grubbing hoes, and strong will, blazed a way through the wood.... and in two days a quarter of an acre was cleared off. In less than three weeks a cabin, with 'puncheon floor,' was ready for occupancy."

John Newcomers first log cabin was of round logs, but later he built a large hewn-log house, of two floors. That house was a stopping place for travellers. George D. Newcomer says that when the railroad was being built in 1853-54, they often had forty or fifty boarders, all of whom would sleep in the one large upstairs room, sleeping on the floor, and arranging themselves as well as they could around the room, "feet to the center." The small log house was then used as a

"ALL THE COOKING WAS DONE ON A SPIT."

dining room. The cooking was all done on a spit, before an old-fashioned fireplace.

John Newcomer had good part in the development of Clinton Township and of Wauseon. He held several local offices, and for nine years was a justice of the peace. "He took a leading part in the erection of the church (Methodist Episcopal) at Wauseon" and was "the first Mason made by Wauseon Lodge, on its organization, 1864." The golden anniversary of the wedding of John and Naomi Newcomer was held in 1881, and on that day 175 friends, most of whom were prominent residents of Fulton county, called to pay "their respects to Uncle John and his bride of fifty years ago." Mrs. Newcomer died five years later, aged seventy-two years, having lived long enough to see a remarkable change take place

in the locality to which they had come in 1844. Of their children, Solomon went into Nebraska in 1856, and in the next fifty years only visited Wauseon twice, once to attend his parents' golden wedding celebration in 1881, and the last time in 1912. He died in Wauseon on this second visit. His life had been an adventurous one, "gold prospecting, and fighting Indians, carrying United States mails, on snowshoes over mountains and barren wastes." In his last years he lived in Idaho. Anna, or Hester Ann, was born in Clinton Township on February 28, 1846, and was, it seems the first white child born in what now is within the corporate limits of Wauseon. She married Wesley A. Blake, and in the marital state lived almost fifty years, her death occurring in 1913, just three weeks short of what would have been the time of their golden wedding celebration. She was a stanch Methodist, like her mother, and was an ardent church worker. George D., the only surviving child of John and Naomi Newcomer still lives in Wauseon, much respected. His life-record has been good. He enlisted in the spring of 1862, and was discharged at the end of the war, his service including a brief term as a Confederate prisoner. During his life, George D. Newcomer has taken useful part in Wauseon and county affairs; he was trustee of the township for six years, and for three terms was a commissioner of Fulton county.

James Dunbar, born in Connecticut in 1817, came from Erie county, Ohio, where he was married in 1841 to Mary Ann Gleason, and settled in Clinton Township in 1844. He became one of the substantial residents of the township, and lived in it for fifty-six years, death coming in 1900. His wife died in 1892.

David and Nathaniel Gorsuch came in 1848, from Wayne county, Ohio. Nathaniel, probably David also, settled on section 17. Nathan Gorsuch settled on section 15, in 1854, coming with his wife, Elizabeth Ayers, and their children, in that year from Wayne county, Ohio. He was a veteran of the War of 1812, and he died on section 16 of Clinton Township, March 3, 1886. His wife died in 1872. They were the parents of fourteen children. One of their sons, Mordecai, died in a Confederate prison during the Civil War. Another son, Ephraim, developed a fine property near the village of Wauseon. He died in 1918, aged eighty-three years. In the early days of their settlement, they were wont to utilize their team of oxen behind which to drive to church. He and his wife, Maria Cantleberry, were prominent members of the Christian Church.

Eli Pocock and his wife, Catherine Kennestrick came with their children, from Tuscarawas county, Ohio, in 1842, and settled on the northeast quarter of section 26, paying therefor $3.00 an acre. Mrs. Pocock died in 1849, and Eli in 1865, being then sixty-nine years old. They had twelve children, three of whom served in the Civil War. Jesse, born in 1829, bought eighty acres of forest land in the township in 1850, paying $3.00 an acre. He developed a fine homestead.

Anthony B. Robinson did not come into Fulton county until 1862, but he soon became prominent among the early residents. He was born in Wayne county, Ohio, and well educated, for academic, or engineering professions. He taught school for twenty-eight terms. and "took rank with the best teachers in the country." He farmed as well as taught, and after coming to Fulton county seems to have devoted most of his time to farming, and to county affairs. He owned nearly

300 acres of land, and served as county surveyor from 1872 until 1884; and for eighteen years was a justice of the peace. He died in 1898, at his residence, one mile west of Wauseon, aged 73 years.

John Miley with his wife, Elizabeth Peterson, came from Holmes county, in 1847; he died in 1892, and his wife in 1903. Others of the Miley family, were: Rachel, who married James Wells; Jacob; Matthias, who died in 1905; George, of reference in Dover Township chapter; Jesse, who died in Illinois. Of John Miley's children, Henry went into Swan Creek Township; Thomas developed a good farm in Clinton Township, after the Civil War service; William C. had a farm west of Wauseon; Jacob M. moved into Wauseon. Much will be told elsewhere about the Miley family, a name much encountered in historical records of Fulton county.

Henry Scott, settled in Clinton Township, in 1847, paying $245 for eighty acres. He came with his wife, Hannah Graham from Holmes county. She died in 1850.

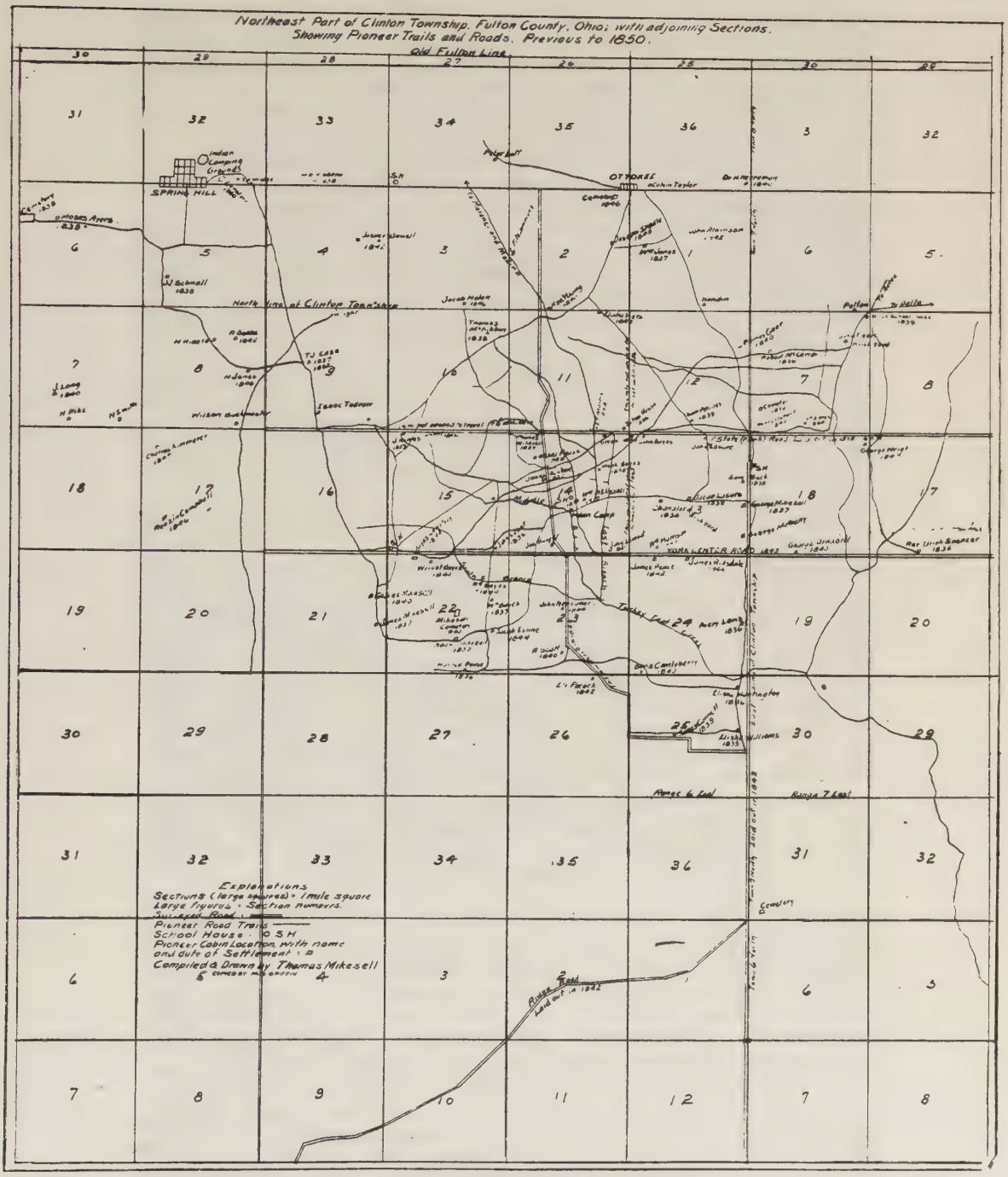
Many of the Clinton Township pioneers will be referred to in the second volume of this work, and this chapter must now deal more with the general narrative. The first birth in the township was that of a boy to Mr. and Mrs. Elisha Williams, on October 12, 1836. The boy, Charles G., died in 1837, his death being the first that occurred in the township. He was buried in York Township. The first burial in Clinton Township was in 1838, when the body of Ebenezer Keiser was interred, "on the south line of section 24, on the bank of Turkey Foot Creek, on the Avery Lamb Farm, about a half-mile east of Wauseon." No monument marks the spot.

The first resident physician was Dr. D. W. Hollister. Rufus Briggs said, regarding Dr. Hollister:

"The early history of the township would be incomplete without naming the first resident physician. In 1851, or about two and one-half years before the first railroad, which is now known as the Lake Shore was built through the township, Dr. D. W. Hollister located in Wauseon. Doctor Hollister was a most welcomed settler, for up to that time we had to diagnose our own disease, and prescribe our own medicine, or be to the great expense of getting a physician who lived miles away. None can appreciate the hardships that Doctor Hollister endured, as he rode, night after night, on horseback, over the cow-paths through the dense forest, to render relief to a settler who was suffering from disease contracted from exposure, or the unhealthiness of the climate. I say none but the early pioneer can appreciate the hardships that Doctor Hollister endured to relieve the sufferings of his fellow men."

More regarding the labors of Doctor Hollister will be written into the Medical chapter of this historical work.

The first church built in Clinton Township was erected by the Campbellites, or Disciples of Christ, on the east side of the public highway, in section 17, near the present residence of A. R. Loveland, states Charles W. Cornell. It was of frame construction, and built in, about, 1852. The first frame house erected in the township was, he adds, that built by James Cornell, in 1843. The northern 240 acres of what eventually became the site of Wauseon (the land "lying south of Linfoot Street, and west of Shoop Avenue, to Brunel Street") were purchased by James Cornell and Campbell Bayes, his brother-in-law, they paying the Hickville Land Company $3.50 an acre therefor.


Northeast Part of Clinton Township, Fulton County, Ohio; with adjoining Sections,
Showing Pioneer Trails and Roads, Previous to 1850.
Old Fulton Line
Indian Camping Grounds
SPRING HILL
OTTOKEE
North line of Clinton Township
YORK CENTER ROAD 1842
Range 6 East
Range 7 East
Explanations
Sections (large squares) = 1 mile square
Large figures = Section numbers.
Surveyed Road
Pioneer Road Trails
School House = O S H
Pioneer Cabin Location, with name and date of Settlement
Compiled & Drawn by Thomas Mikesell
Cemetery

This narrative is gradually coming to the all-important era which began with the announcement that the railroad would pass through the county. First, however, let something be recorded regarding the earlier roads. In the words of Charles W. Cornell:

"The roads of the pioneer were blazed trails, angling through the woods, following the high ground. They were compelled to go to the high ground, for their roads, as water covered the low lands a large part of the year, and as most of the land was common, it made very little difference where the road went, or what trees were cut to make the road. When a low piece of ground had to be crossed, and there was likely to be much travel over it, trees were cut, and the logs were hauled in by oxen and placed side by side across it, and then earth was hauled over them, forming a corduroy road. Oft times this made a pretty rough road, but it was better than getting stuck in the mud.

"The first road laid out in Clinton Township began at the Island House corners; or near there, north of the Fulton County Fair Grounds, then angling across the town, striking Leggett Street, east of the Dr. Charles A. Cole residence. This was in 1844. John Schmall was the surveyor and S. E. Young and John Newcomer were the chain carriers."

From 1840 to 1850 the development of Clinton Township flagged somewhat, by comparison with the promise of the first few years of its settlement, but from 1850 it went forward with renewed energy. Undoubtedly, the organization of Fulton as a separate county unit of Ohio, in 1850, gave impetus to the development of the territory, but probably greater impetus was contained in the prospects of the early linking of the county with one or more railway systems. It was thought that Ottokee would be on the line of the projected Junction railway, and the survey for that purpose caused Ottokee to grow rapidly. But the movement to bond the county for $50,000 having been defeated, the Junction railway project was abandoned, and with its abandonment passed Ottokee's early opportunity of growth.

The Junction enterprise is referred to in an earlier chapter, and is touched upon here only because of its indirect bearing on the establishment of the village of Wauseon. Regarding Ottokee's prospect of securing railroad connection "Charley" Cornell says:

"It seems to me but yesterday when the announcement was made that Fulton county was to have a railroad. Surveyors had been at work, running lines east and west across the county, most of the surveys passing just south of Ottokee. Fulton county was organized in 1850, and Ottokee was made the county seat. With the prospect of securing a railroad Ottokee became a boom town, and there was great activity in real estate along the proposed line. The next year it was announced that the road would be built on the line of the last survey, or about three and one-half miles south of Ottokee."

As a matter of fact, the last survey was made by an opposition company, the Southern Michigan and Northern Indiana Railroad Company (later known as the Lake Shore and Michigan Southern, and now designated the Air Line Division, of the New York Central Railroad), which company feared that the success of the Junction railway project would in time encroach upon what it considered its

own sphere, as a public carrier, and therefore decided to hasten the construction of a railway westward from Toledo, to connect with its main-line at Elkhart, Indiana. That was in 1852, and may be considered the seed from which Wauseon, which ultimately became, and is now, the county seat of Fulton county, grew.

Wauseon, the County Seat

Wauseon, in 1852, was not much more than "a road through the woods." But it had possibilities, seen clearly by one young engineer among those who came into the field, quietly, in 1852 to survey the territory for the Southern Michigan and Northern Indiana Railroad Company. The survey completed, and the construction of the road decided upon, this young engineer, Epaphras Lord Barber, and a fellow-engineer, John H. Sargent, a resident of Cleveland, seem to have arranged with Nathaniel Leggett and William Hall, the former of Swan Creek Township. and at that time county treasurer, and the latter an attorney of Maumee City, to purchase land for them along the line of the railway. The four were to all intents partners in the transaction, but Barber and Sargent were to hold two-thirds, in common, of the land secured, and Nathaniel Leggett and William Hall the other one-third, in common. Eventually, "they bought of Thomas Bayes 160 acres of land, which comprised what is known, in the records of the county, as the original plat of Wauseon." The transaction must have been consummated in 1853, or before, for in that year William Hall, partner of Nathaniel Leggett, died of cholera in Maumee City, Leggett thus becoming equal, in land holdings, with the other two original proprietors of the new town, which at that time however had not been platted; had not even been named. The purchase price was $16 an acre, Thomas Bayes apparently making a satisfactory profit on land for which he had not, probably, paid more than $3.00 an acre, and possibly not more than $1.25, and to which he appears to have done very little development work, for it seems "the entire parcel was in nearly a wild state." As a matter of fact, it then showed no indication of habitation, save in the one log hut erected by Mr. Bayes, probably that at which John Newcomer "landed," in 1844. The Bayes log house stood within a few rods south and west of where eventually the court house was built.

However, the grading of the railway was proceeding rapidly, and either in the fall of 1853, or the early spring of 1854, Mr. Barber "laid out" the town, assisted in that work by Thomas F. Wright, as chain man. The plat was recorded in the Fulton County Recorder's office on April 11, 1854.

The Bayes family was of course the first to take up residence on the land which ultimately became the original plat of Wauseon, but of outside people, it may be considered that the first merchant to take up actual residence within the bounds of the projected town, and with a genuine intent to remain, was E. L. Hayes, who later gained distinction, and a brevet as brigadier general, by valiant and capable military service during the war. How he happened to come to Fulton county, and to the town-to-be, is best told in his own words, contained in his letter from Bloomfield, New Jersey, dated July 1, 1908, to the "Pioneer

Historical Society of Fulton County, Ohio." The communication, in part, reads:

"In October, 1852, I left Litchfield, Ohio, to look for a new town, in which to locate and engage in merchandising. I travelled in my own conveyance over a portion of southeastern Michigan, and northwestern Ohio. While stopping one night at Adrian, Michigan, I heard of a new line of railroad, running west from Toledo, through Fulton and Williams counties, into Indiana, and west to Chicago, and to be called Michigan Southern Air Line.

"I went from Adrian to Delta, and stopped at a tavern kept by Thomas Gleason. During the evening I met Nathaniel Leggett. He called my attention to a new station on the new railroad about six miles west of Delta, which he with others had located, and invited me to go with him the next day to look and see if it would interest me. I spent the day with him in looking round the neighborhood, and feeling pretty well pleased with what I had seen, but still concluded to spend a day or two more. I stopped with Samuel Biddle, when I finally decided to locate here. The town site had been purchased by Nathaniel Leggett, E. L. Barber and J. H. Sargent, of Thomas Bayes; the timber on the line of the road was thin, being cut through the tract. The proprietors gave me a lot on what was afterwards known as the corner of Fulton and Beech streets. I removed in November from Litchfield to Fulton county, and occupied a log house owned by Mr. E. Huntington, and I immediately commenced building a two-story house. In April, 1853, my building finished, I opened the store in the lower story, my family occupying the upper story.... In the fall of that year the road was finished to what was called Lamb's Crossing; in the spring of 1854, the road was finished to Wauseon, and through to Stryker and Bryan the same year."

This letter conflicts somewhat with one General Hayes wrote five years earlier to his "Esteemed Friend, Joel Brigham," in which letter he stated that he came to Wauseon in 1853, not 1852, and his other dates are all one year later than those given in the letter above quoted. The letter to Joel Brigham said:

"How well I recall many incidents connected with my first settling in Wauseon, in the fall of 1853. The timber in the line of the railroad was being cleared off at the time. The station had not been located, but the Lamb's Crossing and Bayes' Crossing were being considered. I met Mr. N. Leggett in Delta early in September, and went with him to visit the two places talked of for the station, etc. The Bayes land was finally selected. I returned to Litchfield, and soon afterwards moved to Fulton county, and rented a house of Mr. E. Huntington, where we lived during the time I was erecting my house and store, in the winter of 1853-54. The lot upon which the building was erected was covered with timber, and a considerable portion of the timber used in building the storehouse was cut from the lot. The building was completed in April, and we moved into it. During the same spring, George Beals built a house further south on the same street. (Fulton). John Williams commenced building the hotel, across the railroad, the same year."

General Hayes was eighty-three years old when he wrote this letter, and another five years may have befogged his memory somewhat. And there is much other evidence to substantiate the figures given in General

Hayes' 1903 letter. William Lee, of Oak Shade, who came to Wauseon in 1854, stated in 1917: "John Williams was building a new hotel on the corner now known as Fulton and Beech Streets.... At that time, E. L. Hayes was erecting a store building on the corner south of the hotel property." All authorities agree that the Estelle Hotel was built by John Williams in 1854.

It is generally supposed, and has been accepted by previous compilers of Fulton county history that the Air Line Railroad reached Wauseon station in 1854, but there is reason to believe that it did not get nearer to Wauseon than Lamb's Crossing, a mile distant, in that year. It may be taken as certain that trains did not run to Lamb's Crossing "in the fall of 1853," as stated in General Hayes' 1908 letter. The "Delta Independent Press," vol. 1, No. 10, the date of which issue was June 7, 1854, had an editorial, regarding the "new era" that had begun for Delta that week:

"A connection is now formed by railway between this place and Toledo. A daily train leaves Delta at 12 noon, and returns at 7:30

WAUSEON IN 1857.

p. m. It is a new era in our history....The station buildings are in process of construction, and will be ready for the reception of goods by the 15th inst..... The rails are being rapidly laid, and soon Wauseon, the next station, will be reached."

"Charley" Cornell, who had part in the construction of the railroad stated:

"In 1853 they commenced grading for the railroad, and in 1854 passenger cars were run to Lamb's Crossing, a mile east of Wauseon. You could not say a passenger train, for about all there was to the train was a wood-burning engine, a car for hauling the wood and water, and one passenger coach. This constituted the first passenger train to run in Fulton county. The next year the road was built on west of Wauseon, and the first passenger train coming into Wauseon was in the early spring of 1855. As these trains came into the county excitement ran high. The speed they made, about fifteen miles an hour, was wonderful.

Many pioneers declared it was impossible to travel that fast. With the coming of the railroad settlers came rapidly."

Which was so. General Hayes stated that, by the time the railroad had reached Bryan, Wauseon had thirty-six dwellings, a school-house, a hotel, three stores, a drug store, a saw mill, and, he thought, a Methodist church. As a matter of fact, it was not until 1856 that James Hogeboom built the "Little White Schoolhouse," and it seems that it was not until 1857 that through trains were run from Toledo to Elkhart. "Time Table No. 1" took effect "on Monday, June 8, 1857." There was one train daily, each way, and to cover the about 133 miles between the terminal points meant a journey of about nine hours. The first conductor on the road, after passenger trains commenced running was James Moore. James Hogeboom, in reminiscences published about twelve years ago, stated:

THE FIRST PASSENGER TRAIN TO ENTER WAUSEON.

"It was in the spring of 1855 when father moved his family to Wauseon, and what a wilderness it was then—earth, acres of water, forests and blue sky was about all there was to be seen here then. The Lake Shore Railroad was extended to Bryan that year, and in the fall one train a day was run between here and that place. It was a work train, but it carried passengers, and well do I remember its conductor, James Moore."

A copy of the Wauseon newspaper, the "Sentinel," of September 18, 1857, carried some interesting advertisements, which at least illumine the business section of General Hayes' above-referred to tabulation. One advertisement read: "A. T. Shanks. Fashionable barber and hairdresser. Shop opposite the Estelle House." Among the business advertisements were:

"H. Stern, dealer in dry goods, groceries, ready-made clothing,

jewelry and fancy goods;" "J. Antibus, saddle and harness maker; shop on the corner of Fulton and Chestnut Streets;" "D. W. Hollister, dealer in drugs, paints, oils and groceries;" "E. L. Hayes, dealer in staple and fancy dry goods, boots and shoes, hardware, etc. Pioneer Block, No. 1, Fulton Street, Wauseon."

Wauseon's First Hotel

The "Sentinel" also carried a descriptive advertisement regarding the Estelle, built in 1854. The notice read:

"This house has lately been refitted and furnished in the most fashionable and improved style. The proprietors will leave nothing undone to make their guests happy and comfortable. This house is pleasantly situated on Fulton Street, near the railroad depot. Stages between this place and Adrian stop at this house."

The Estelle stood where now is the First National Bank building. Its first landlords were W. E., D. O., and A. Livermore, who came

Where the Estelle Hotel once stood.

from Utica, New York. The opposite corner lot which intersecting street properly might have been called Beech Street, but which, because it led to the railway station, was named Depot Street, was offered to Charles W. Cornell, by Samuel Biddle, in 1857, for $650, at which price the small frame building then on the lot would be "thrown in." And the owner was so anxious to sell that he offered to allow the principal to remain unpaid indefinitely, Cornell merely being required to pay the interest year by year. Had Cornell bought, he would have made a profit of several thousand dollars on the real estate in a decade, or so. Today the corner is probably worth $25,000. The old frame building built by Biddle in 1854, was used for business purposes. Biddle occupied one-half as a drug store; the other half was used by Hunt and Company. In the fall of 1857, M. H. Dudley occupied the building with dry goods and a light line of groceries. In 1860 A. J. Knapp put in a stock of drugs, which he finally sold, in about 1867, to Masters and Company, who in turn sold to F. L. S. Darby. The next

tenants were Auxter and Nachtrieb, and in 1887 the firm of Nachtrieb and Guilford. They purchased the corner in the late 'eighties, or early 'nineties, "and also one-half of the building occupied by Lorenzo-Lyon, paying $8,000." The old frame building was sold for $75, and in its place was erected a substantial two-story brick building. So, the pioneers, as is usually the case, found "Father Time" working for them.

How Wauseon Was So Named

Wauseon might have gone into permanent record as Litchfield, Hayesville, or some such ordinary appellation; and how it happened by its distinctive, unique, and poetic name is worthy of space in this record. In the before-referred-to letter of General Hayes, he wrote:

"The proprietors of the town proposed to name the town Litchfield. I protested, as there was already a town of that name in the state. Several names were presented, when Mr. Leggett said to my eldest daughter, Hortensia: 'Can't you suggest a name?' She replied: 'A Mr. Howard, while dining with us a few days since, said: "On that hill (pointing to the hill in the west part of the town) was where the Maumee Indians held their last treaty (council) with the United States, by which (treaty) they conveyed all their lands in the Northwest Territory to the United States. The name of the chief was Wauseon," ' and she asked, 'why not adopt that name?' They talked the matter over for a few minutes. When they came again into the store, and said they had decided to give the town the name she had suggested, and thanked her for it."

It might not be inappropriate here to give some information regarding the Indian chief whose name is perpetuated in that of the county seat of Fulton county. And the most authentic data would be that given by Colonel D. W. H. Howard, who lived so much of his early life among the Ottawas and Pottawattamies. Writing to the Wauseon "Republican," on March 4, 1874, he stated: "As I have been requested many times by friends to give to the public my recollections of the history and character of the two men whose names have been given to our former and present county seats—Ottokee and Wauseon—I will endeavor to give a slight sketch of the men.

"Both were noble red men, for finer and more perfect specimens of the human physique, or of natural mental ability, are seldom found anywhere. Ottokee, the older of the two brothers (or half brothers as they were) was a man six feet high, weighing about two hundred, with as fine a form as could be met with in a day's travel, and, when speaking upon the floor of the Council Lodge, was as dignified and as noble in demeanor as a Clay or a Webster, speaking with as much force and eloquence as their limited language would permit.

"Wa-se-on, which signified 'far off', was somewhat larger, not so fleshy, but had a heavy frame, and was quite as large a man as his brother, Ottokee, yet not so great an orator, but a very intelligent man, and a good speaker, and in 1838 (I think) when the last of the tribe were removed from this country, was about forty years of age.... I was always an attentive listener to the words that fell from the lips of these men, while portraying in eloquent language the misfortunes of their race, while being driven step by step from the great salt lake, 'at the rising Sun' to the 'setting sun', beyond the Mississippi. I have sat unwearied, hour after hour, listening to a speech delivered by Wa-

se-on, in the most energetic and persuasive language, urging his people to go to their new homes west of the Mississippi, and begging the young men to go with him beyond the reach of the pale-face, and the accursed whisky-seller, or 'bad spirit', Mi-ji-min-a-to. The very last speech made by an Indian in the county was made by Ottokee, at a treaty, or council, with the U. S. Government agents and commissioners, for the purpose of their removal west. Their lands had all been sold, and the time had expired that they were allowed to remain on them. Ottokee told the Commissioner that his people did not want to go; they could not leave the graves of their fathers and of their children, and their council fires, although the fires had nearly gone out, they could not leave the ashes, and it was with a great effort that they were induced to go. They were shown the necessity of removal and the advantages of a home on their own lands in the west, over a wandering life among white men, who had no sympathy or feeling for them. The Che-mo-ke-man, 'long-knife', had got all their lands here, and were ploughing up the graves of their dead, and to stay here and witness it was worse than death on the plains (in their new homes) from the bloody hands of the Comanches, Kaws, or Apaches.....I assisted in collecting them together for removal west.....Many did not come into the council and consent to be removed, but remained in the deep forests of the Maumee and Auglaize valley for a few years .....Ottokee and Wa-se-on.....were among the last to remove from this country, having gone west in 1838 (spring), when the last remnant of this tribe took their final departure from this once cherished home. These chiefs lived but a few years in their new homes, and died when yet comparatively young, Wa-se-on being not over forty-five years old."

Another glimpse of the personality of Wa-se-on is seen in the reminiscences of Mr. Y. Rakestraw, a pioneer of Lucas county. He settled in Toledo in 1832, and:

He knew the famous Indian chief, Wa-se-on, and Chief Ottokee. ....He had a clear recollection of the time when the Indians were corraled on Buttonwood Island, near Maumee, preparatory to being sent to Missouri on the reservation. Wa-se-on, Ottokee, and Dresden Howard went to Missouri on horseback, to look after the interests of the Indians. . . . Before the Indians left for their new home in the spring they had a hilarious time. Two oxen were prepared for the feast, and whisky was drunk in great quantity. . . . At Wauseon village, four miles above Waterville, the squaws raised potatoes, corn, beans, and other vegetables, while the Indians hunted for game. On section 11, on which J. L. Pray owns a farm, the squaws cultivated one patch of eleven acres and another of three acres. . . Mr. Rakestraw says that Wa-se-on was a tall well-built man, intelligent, dignified, and a gentleman in every way. He was one of the most honorable men Mr. Rakestraw ever met. . . . The Indians lived in harmony, but they had their love affairs, like the whites. Two young Indians fell in love with a comely Indian maiden. The rivalry became so keen that one killed the other. . . . The slayer . . ..ran into the woods, but returned in a few days, and was tried for murder by an Indian court. He was adjudged guilty, and, as chief, Wa-se-on was executioner. Wa-se-on took a keen-edged hunting knife and plunged it into the Indian's heart, killing him instantly.

The "History of Henry and Fulton Counties" (Aldrich, 1888), makes the following statement regarding the naming of the new town:

"The first plat of the village of Wauseon was called Litchfield, it being the intention to name all the stations along the line of the new railroad each for some one of its directors. There were two Litchfields, residing in New York City, who were directors . . . and this name was given for them . . . H. L. Hosmer of Toledo was applied to when the projectors of the new town came to reconsider the name by which it should be known, and among other names, he suggested that of Wauseon . . . Its spelling is said to be incorrect, and the pronunciation is slightly different from what it was in its aboriginal purity."

The Incorporation of Wauseon

It has been supposed—but why, is not clear—by the authors of previous historical works of Fulton county that the official records of the incorporated village of Wauseon were consumed in the fire which destroyed the county records with the court house, at Ottokee, in 1864. Fortunately such a supposition was not well based, and the official records of the village have been available for the purposes of the present compilation. The first entry in the council records is a copy of the petition for incorporation. It reads:

To the Commissioners of Fulton County, Ohio:

The undersigned citizens of Wauseon, in said county, not embraced within the limits of any city, or incorporated village, hereby petition your Honorable body, and pray that they may be organized into an incorporated village, by the name of Wauseon, by virtue of the provisions of statutes in such cases made and provided passed May 3, 1852. Section 2. Your Petitioners pray that the following territory be embraced in said village, to wit: the east or south west of section 23, in town 7 north, of range 6 east, together with so much of the east south east of said section 23 as would lie on the west side of a line drawn parallel with Fulton street, in said town of Wauseon, 1081 feet east of the east edge of said Fulton street, according to the plat thereof, herewith submitted, and marked (A); and we further hereby authorize N. W. Jewell and Nathaniel Leggett to act in our behalf, in prosecuting this petition before your Honorable Body:

Names of Petitioners.

N. Leggett,	Daniel Kesler,	H. M. Dudley,
E. L. Barber,	Wm. C. Comstock,	A. Parsons,
Wm. G. A. Altman,	Thomas Scott,	J. R. Deming,
Chas. R. Wilson,	John Archer,	C. Miller,
John B. Somers,	Perry H. Waffle,	Daniel Morse,
Edward Holey,	H. B. Bayes,	Ralph Cornell,
C. W. Cornell,	J. R. Robinson,	M. D. Munn,
D. W. Hollister,	B. Hogeboom,	F. Baumgartner,
E. L. Hayes,	Martin Archer,	A. Huntington,
J. C. Hoffmire,	J. J. Barnes,	Rollin Ford,
C. P. Howe,	A. S. Russell,	Charles Bruner,
F. A. Hunt,	Wm. Chamberlin,	A. M. Guthrie,
N. W. Jewell,	George Beal,	Rufus Briggs,
J. F. Hunt,	C. N. Clark,	Henry Cone.
Wm. R. Huntington.	E. W. Fuller,	

At the foot of the petition is the county official's notation, "Received and filed, Aprl 11, 1857."

The next entry in the Council Records reads as follows:

"We, the undersigned Commissioners of Fulton county, having had the written petition under advisement, and being fully satisfied in the Premises, do agree that said Village of Wauseon be incorporated, as named and described in said petition, and that Record be made of the same, and that the same may be organized.

Ottokee, June 13, 1857.

Stephen Houghton)
Joseph Ely)Commissioners."
George Taft)

Council Records

The first meeting of the Wauseon Council was held on September 28, 1857, "pursuant to verbal notice from the mayor". Present at the meeting were: Nathaniel Leggett, mayor; Messrs. Barber, Cornell Hayes, Munn, and Scott. E. L. Barber was the "recorder". At a meeting of the council a week later, N. W. Jewell was elected treasurer, and J. J. Robinson, sheriff.

The first resolution of consequence passed by the new council was that of October 5, 1857, restricting the use of firearms, and stipulation "that no person shall fire any cannon, gun, rifle, pistol or fire arms of any kind . . . within the incorporated village," excepting "in the lawful defense of the family, or property of any person, or to the killing of any mad dog." Permission to discharge firearms, or fireworks, on the Fourth of July "may be given through any public paper."

Much grading and street improvements were done in 1857. "An ordinance to level and improve Depot street, between Fulton and Brunel street," October 12, A. D., 1857, assessed owners of lots and lands in that section one and one-half cents a foot front. Elm and Clinton street lot owners were assessed two cents, and those on Commercial street three cents. The councilmen seem to have contracted to do the work, or perhaps to see that the work was done, for on November 16, 1857, the Council passed claims, as follows, for "labor and work performed, and money expended" for such improvements of streets:

James Cornell, for improvement of Depot street..$37.80
Anson Huntington, for Clinton and part of Elm.. 45.00
E. L. Hayes, for improvements to Commercial St. 67.00
N. W. Jewell, for improvements to Fulton St..... 84.76

The members of the Council were by no means "swivel-chair artists", and had no intention to extravagantly use public funds entrusted to them. Their first meetings were apparently held in the store of Mr. Hayes, but evidently the Council Room was not adequately furnished, for on November 30, 1857, James Cornell "was appointed a committee to provide chairs for the use of the Council". Council adjourned for two weeks, and at meeting of December 28, 1857, the meeting of December 14th, having been also adjourned, James Cornell reported "that he had procured one dozen chairs . . . the cost of which was seven dollars."

That there were sincere advocates of temperate use of liquors if not of total abstinence in Wauseon in those early days may be inferred from the petition of N. W. Jewell, and thirty other citizens of Wauseon, presented at Council meeting of February 15, 1858, said petition "praying for the suppression of all drinking establishments within the corporation". The petition might have had in view the coming election, and that certainly was well in view of the Council when, on March 1st, it passed an ordinance "To prevent the sale of Intoxicating liquors, on Sundays, and Election Days". At the same meeting an order was issued to the marshal "to give notice for an election for the election of Municipal officers of the Incorporated Village of Wauseon".

Election over, the new council met on April 12, 1858. Present were: N. W. Jewell, mayor; M. D. Munn, treasurer; J. J. Robinson, marshal; Anson Huntington, James Cornell, E. L. Barber, Thomas Scott, and E. L. Hayes, trustees; with E. W. Fuller, recorder. The Financial Statement of the Incorporated Village of Wauseon, for the first year, 1857-58, was presented, and was copied in full upon the minutes. It reads:

Treasurer's Report. Wauseon, April 12, 1858.

I hereby certify that the following is the amount of money collected by me during my official term as Treasurer of the incorporated Village of Wauseon; also the disbursements of the same, and the amount remaining in the treasury; and the amount yet unpaid.

The whole levy amounts to		$248.42
Collected, in money, work, &c		248.42
Disbursed, as follows, by ordinance:		
E. L. Hayes	$59.10	
James Cornell	37.80	
N. W. Jewell	87.62	
Anson Huntington	45.00	
A. Parsons	7.00	
N. Leggett	4.50	
E. W. Fuller	4.90	$245.82
Balance		$ 2.60

N. W. Jewell.
Treasurer.

(Of interest is it to compare this initial annual statement with the Treasurer's Statement for the year 1919, in which year the receipts were $72,403.06, and the expenditures $72,269.55. Some prosperity has obviously come to Wauseon during the period).

The "Marshal's Report" for the first year was also presented at that meeting. It showed that there had been one arrest, opposite which statistic was the notation "no fees yet." The report also recorded a "Notice to George Matheny to remove dead hog and dog—no fees."

The levy, for all purposes, in 1858 was three mills; and at a June meeting of Council consideration was given to the report of a "Special Committee on Street Supervision," the report stating that N. W. Jewell (the mayor, and also a physician) "would oversee the work for 10 per cent on all expenditures," and that Anson Huntington would

do it for $1.00 per day." Mr. Huntington was given that responsibility.

Wauseon, in early state, has been described by many pioneers as "a mud hole," James Hogeboom recollecting that "in front of the Clinton House was a big swamp, where the boys on the Fourth of July used to catch bull heads," and another pioneer stating that often "a frog would be seen hopping out of a pail of drinking water." Mrs. Greenleaf remembers the time, in Wauseon, when people, out walking, were wont to carry under their arm "a bit of board," for use in bridging any more than usually treacherous mud-holes encountered. The Council seems to have determined, in 1858, to improve matters. On December 20, 1858, a motion was made and adopted, authorizing the Street Committee to "solicit subscriptions to aid in constructing a side walk," on the west side of the principal street, Fulton street, "commencing at the railroad, and extending equal distances north and south, as far as the money will provide." James Cornell was appointed a committee "to contract for plank and timbers necessary for the sidewalk and crossings."

Possibly with thoughts of approaching Christmas, with the festivities and increased expenses, the Council, on December 22, 1858, issued to villagers who had claims against the corporation, for improvement work done, sixty-eight orders, in various small amounts, the sixty-eight totalling to $270.95. However, owing to the limited funds of the corporation it was decided that "should there be no money in the treasury" when the orders were presented for payment: "The Treasurer shall write on the back of said order: 'not paid for want of funds,' " but it was decided that "in no case shall these orders draw interest if not paid."

An inventory of the property of the corporation could not have entailed much time in taking, in those early years. Mr. Huntington, as "a Committee on Village Property," on March 28, 1859, reported that the corporation owned, on that date; one large plow, $11.00; one small plow, $6.00; one scraper, $5.00; one grub hoe, 75 cents; and twelve chairs, $7.50.

Nathaniel Leggett became mayor again, in 1859, the first meeting of the new council being on April 11, 1859, when, to them the "business of the incorporated Village of Wauseon was transferred . . . for its future prosperity." Spread upon the minutes of that meeting was a resolution expressing to the outgoing mayor "the approbation of the Council . . . for his courtesy, promptitude, discipline, and parliamentary dignity, in presiding over this body." Financial statement for the year just ended showed $1.47 as in the treasury, and that there was an indebtedness of $17.28, while overdue levies totalled to $87.98. A four mill levy was made in 1859.

The rental of council room was not a subject of discussion or rather of record, until April 30, 1860, when the proposition made by Mr. E. L. Hayes "that this council have the use of room now occupied by them for one year, and light the same, for twelve dollars per year" was accepted. But before the end of that year, the Council appears to have decided that the rent was exorbitant. On April 3, 1861 "a committee of two" waited on Mr. Hayes, "to ask reduction of rent, for various reasons." The rent was reduced to $10 a year, but apparently the Council thought it advisable to further economize. The matter was the subject of further discussion at council meeting of May 20.

1861, when a "Committee on finding a room" reported that "a room could be obtained of Mr. Greenough for eight dollars a year." It was moved and carried "that the council accept Mr. Greenough's proposition, provided he furnish wood and lights." It was "moved and carried . . . to close the bargain, also to procure a table with a drawer, and lock with two keys, with all stationery necessary, also to move the chairs, which belong to the Council, to said room."

The council meetings were held in Mr. Greenough's law office for several years thereafter, but for only one year did the corporation pay a rental of eight dollars. On June 2, 1862, it was recommended "that the Council accept offer of Mr. Greenough . . . for the use of his office, as Council Room, for the ensuing year . . . at five dollars per year, lights and wood being furnished by the said Greenough."

Sidewalks progress was reported in 1863, when the Council decided to assess owners of lots nine dollars a lot, for cost of sidewalks to be laid, the sidewalks to be according to specification, which provided for "good sound oak planks, not less than one and one-half inches thick, and not less than six inches wide, laid on three stringers, crosswise."

The first reference made to a suggested bonded issue was in 1866, when the council decided to borrow six hundred dollars, "for purchase of hose and fixtures for fire engine," at a rate of interest not in excess of six per centum per annum.

An important transaction of the next year, 1867, was that whereby the cemetery came under the joint trusteeship of the village and the township. The history of the Wauseon Cemetery will have place some pages further on in this chapter.

It is somewhat surprising, having regard to the momentous times through which the village and the county, in common with the country in general, were passing during the years 1861-65, that with one exception no reference was made to the Civil War on the minutes of the council of Wauseon, notwithstanding that it must at times have been the thought uppermost in the minds of most of the members of the council, and of the people in general. The single reference was made necessary by the resignation of Gilbert Oldfield, (grandfather of the redoubtable Barney, of automobile racing fame,) from village office as marshal, so that he might "enlist in the service of the United States." Mr. E. L. (subsequently General) Hayes was a councilman at that time, and in a letter to his friend Joel Brigham, under date of February 12, 1903, he describes local conditions and thought at that trying time. He wrote:

"How well I remember all the incidents of how you, Barber, Leggett, Hunt, Livermore, and others, with myself, consulted together as to what was our duty under the pressing necessities of the times. I hardly need refer to those anxious times so vivid still in your recollection, the deep interest we all took in the future welfare of our country. It is still remembered by those still living. Fulton county responded nobly to the call of the government for men to suppress the great rebellion. How well I remember receiving a letter from the Adjutant General, by direction of Governor Dennison, asking if a company of one hundred men could be raised in Fulton county. This message was received about 11 A. M., and before 9 o'clock that night over one hundred men had signed the enlistment rolls. In less

than a week Col. E. L. Barber left our little town with as brave a lot of men as ever shouldered muskets. In June following, I issued a call for one hundred more men, and in less than a week I had 151 good and true men enrolled for the Northwestern Rifle Regiment. As I could only receive one hundred men, the remaining men enlisted in other regiments being raised at the time. . . . Well you did your duty in looking after the welfare of the families of the soldiers in the field; how well I remember your visiting us in the winter of '61 and '62, while we were encamped at Rolla, Missouri, and the letters with many other good things for the soldiers, sent from loved ones at home."

The Civil War record of Fulton county is extensively reveiwed in a special chapter of this current work, and much is there written regarding home conditions during the period, but it is certainly singular that the great events of the time found no expression in the official minutes of the largest community of Fulton county.

An indirect reflection of the times through which the country had passed, and of its effect upon the young men of Fulton county, a great number of whom were war-hardened veterans at that time, is seen in the disposition made by the Wauseon Council, in anticipation of "big doings" on the Fourth of July, 1867. On July 1, 1867, fifteen additional persons were selected . . . to act as constables, or deputy marshals, "on the forthcoming Fourth of July celebrations." Perhaps the Council thought that the boys who had slept with the rifle within reach for four years, and had seen so much of "fireworks—of the real kind," would be apt to give the villagers too realistic a display on the Fourth. It is gratifying to be able to record, however, that the marshal did not record any arrests made on that day.

The question of annexing certain adjoining and contiguous lands, parts of the additions of Newcomer, Barber, and Merrill, to the bounds of the incorporated village of Wauseon, was put to public vote on October 8, 1867. One hundred and nine votes were cast for annexation, and two against.

With the continued growth of the village, it was thought in 1870 that the time had come for the establishment of a police force of more than one person. On July 16, 1870, an ordinance "for the appointment of a police for the village" was read for the first time, and at that meeting the following resolution was unanimously passed: "Resolved: By the Council of the Incorporated Village of Wauseon, Ohio, that the resignation of Orrin Buzzell, as marshal of said village, will be accepted by said Council, if tendered." The ordinance provided for a police force, "not to exceed three in number, one of whom shall be designated to act as Chief of Police." The measure was passed, but subsequently repealed, and Orrin Buzzell continued to constitute the police force of Wauseon. His duties were probably light, and the office was almost an honorary one, as the following account, rendered by Marshal Buzzell, covering his services for one year ending March, 1871, shows. The account reads:

O. Buzzell. Dr.

1870.	Serving notices for Board of Health	$1.50
1870.	Burying a dog	.50
1870.	Posting notices for two elections for closing saloons	1.00
1870 and 1871.	Doing extra duty at night, and on extra occasions	1.00
1870 and 1871.	Notifying and assisting councilman on some five occasions	.25
		$4.25

The First Jail

It might be appropriate here to give the origin of the first jail, as recorded in the council records. The "Marshal's Report," for the year 1859-60 showed "one arrest for drunkenness, on the Fourth of July, 1859," the report conveying the further information that the prisoner was "safely stowed away in Hunt's Corn Crib (finding no better place) and there kept him until soberness returned. Expenses attending the arrest six and a half cents, for crackers and salt." There was no further reference to jailing facilities until 1864, when a petition by A. J. Knapp and others, "that the necessary steps be taken towards building a lock-up" was referred to "The Committee on Lock-up." The matter seems to have lain dormant until August 30, 1867, when $200 was appropriated "for the building of a lock-up." But that amount does not seem to have been used. The lock-up appears to have adjoined, or been part of, a pound erected in the early summer of 1867, following the passing of new pound laws. The erection of the pound cost the village $41.84, and that a lock-up was part of the pound was made clear by subsequent entries. On December 26, 1867, Sheriff Wm. F. A. Altman presented an account for:

Load of wood for jail	$1.25
Repairs to Lock-up	.25
	$1.50
Making door for Lock-up	.40
	$1.90

An entry in the council minutes of 1817 records the removal of lock-up and pound to "lot 248, owned by Wm. F. A. Altman," who gave the village the use of the lot free of rent, under certain conditions. Cost of removal was $12. On November 25, 1870, Sheriff Altman was authorized "to erect, or cause to be erected, a lounge straw bed, and two quilts for the lock-up." The account for this furniture was presented on December 7, 1870, and was:

To 19 yards Calico	1.90	
To 4 pounds Batting	1.00	
To 7 yards Ticking	1.40	
To 1 spool thread	.05	$4.35
To making comforts		1.50
To making bedstead		1.50
		$7.35

which probably provided comfort at certainly little expense.

The Village Pound

The straying of animals within the bounds of the village constituted a nuisance in the early years of the corporate existence of Wauseon, and after the close of the Civil War measures were taken to effect an improvement. On May 11, 1867, Walter Scott and Alanson Pike, as a "Committee on arrangements for a pound" reported "that they had procured a suitable place for a pound, at an expense of $7.00." At the next weekly meeting of the Council, there was passed "an ordinance for restraining certain animals . . . from running at large," the measure providing for the impounding of "any horses, mules, cattle, sheep, or swine" that might be found running at large within the bounds of the village, it being provided however, that the prohibition "shall not extend to any milch cows running at large in the day time," between the months of April and November. The marshal was authorized to impound, and as soon as possible afterwards to post notices in the post-office, and at the north and south ends of Fulton street, and at the end of three days, to sell the impounded animal to the highest bidder, it being provided that the marshal, for such service could exact fifty cents for impounding, and ten cents for posting notices, the proceeds of sale, except one dollar as a penalty, to be paid to owner of the animal impounded and sold, the owner however having the privilege of redeeming his live-stock property before sale, by paying a penalty of fifteen cents, and the sheriff's fees. It is evident, however, that in the first year of the operation of the pound some of the owners of live-stock did not take kindly to the restriction, and even went so far as to refuse to recognize the law. That is obvious by one entry in council records of June 24, 1867, when "the account of the marshal, for keeping and impounding five hogs three days, that were stolen out of the pound" was allowed. In June, 1868, a modification of "Pound Laws" permitted all "neat" cattle and sheep to run at large within the village. In that year, the amount received for poundage was $32.65, and, bearing in mind the smallness of the amount of penalty exacted from offenders, there was just cause for the enactment of some such pound laws. A typical notice reads as follows:

Notice. On or about 1:00 o'clock, P. M., on the 30th day of June A. D., 1868, at the Pound, in the Incorporated Village of Wauseon, Fulton county, Ohio, I shall sell at Public Vendue, the following property,—To Wit; One white sow, having a short tail, and each ear marked with a V cut out of the top, and supposed to be one and a half years old.

Orrin Buzzell, Marshal.

In general administration, all the incorporated places of Fulton county would follow a like course. That being so, it might be recording the early administrative procedure of all the villages by recording here

Some of the Early Ordinances of Wauseon

as shown in its council records:

On February 1, 1858, a village ordinance "for taxing dogs" was passed. Owners of "any animal of the dog kind" were required to

register their ownership, and pay a tax of "one dollar for each dog, and three dollars for each bitch." The dog tax was however repealed on May 31st of same year.

On May 10, 1858, the Council drafted "An ordinance to define and prohibit nuisances," the measure ordaining that "no person shall suffer or permit any cellar, vault, private drain, pool, privy, or sewer, upon the premises belonging to or occupied by him, to become nauseous, offensive, or injurious to the public health." Section 2 provided that "no owner, or possessor, of any animal, which shall have died, shall suffer the same to lie on any public ground, street, lane, alley."

On June 21, 1867, it became unlawful for any person, "to offer for sale, or erect a stand for the sale of any drinks, or groceries, candies, or other eatables on any side-walk," without first obtaining license from the mayor, the ordinance empowering the mayor, at his discretion, to demand a fee of from one dollar to five dollars a day, for such license.

In March of 1870 an ordinance was passed, but subsequently repealed, as was a similar ordinance in 1868, or 1869, "to provide against the evils resulting from the sale of intoxicating liquors, gambling, and drunkenness," by which ordinance rigid restrictions were placed on the sale of liquor to habitual drunkards and minors; and section five stated: "That all places where intoxicating liquors are sold in violation . . . shall be taken, held, and declared to be public nuisances, and all rooms, taverns, eating-houses, restaurants, groceries, coffee-houses, cellars, or other places of public resort where intoxicating liquors are sold in violation . . . shall be shut up."

An "ordinance to punish certain offenses" was passed on November 11, 1870, by which ordinance "any person of the age of fourteen years, and upward, who . . . shall utter, speak, or use any obscene, or lascivious, language, or words, in the presence of any female in said village, the person so offending shall be fined . . . , or imprisoned in the cell, or dungeon, of the jail of the county, and be fed on bread and water, for ten days."

On June 21, 1872, "An ordinance to require each able-bodied male person to perform two days labor on the streets" in each year was read for the third time, and thus placed upon its final passage. It was ordained "that each able-bodied male person, between the ages of twenty-one and fifty-five years, resident within the corporation of Wauseon . . . Shall perform in each and every year, two days of labor upon the streets and alleys of said corporation . . . Provided, that any person may pay to said Street Commissioner the sum of three dollars, in money, in lieu of said two days labor."

The First Wauseon Fire Company.

On the council records, under date of December 15, 1862, is recorded an appropriation made, of fifty dollars, from village funds, "towards building a Fire Engine House." The establishment of a fire company in Wauseon was evidently at that time the subject of discussion among the people, and at a meeting of the citizens, held in the office of Mr. E. L. Barber, on December 29, 1862, the organization was resolved upon. Its original equipment was apparently purchased with money subscribed by the members of the company, or from a fund

publicly subscribed by the villagers for that specific purpose, for there is nothing on record on corporation minutes of village expenditure therefor, in early 1863, save the passing for payment on February 23, 1863, of "a bill of Milo Porter, amounting to $10, for constructing one hundred feet of fire ladders." The understated information regarding the Wauseon Fire Company was obtained from the original records of that organization. It appears that:

"At a meeting of the citizens of Wauseon, held at E. L. Barber's office December 29, 1862, a constitution governing fire companies was read, also that part of the statute of Ohio concerning fire companies.

"Constitution and by-laws, prepared by E. L. Barber, F. A. Hunt, and Wm. T. Altman were adopted January 9, 1863. On Jan. 14, 1863, officers were elected. N. W. Jewell was called to the chair; A. Hunt was chosen foreman; J. C. Cornell, first assistant foreman; H. M. Dudley, second assistant; J. Q. Riddle, secretary; and E. L. Barber, treasurer. The following citizens of Wauseon constituted the company: A. L. Ackerman, L. W. Agler, H. T. Brigham. J. Baumgardner, J. H. Brown, A. Bridge, Rufus Briggs, A. Baker, J. F. Buzzell, J. C. Cornell, B. F. Culbertson, Henry Clay, H. M. Dudley, J. Domitio, Wm. Eckerfield, Cyrus Downer, Frank Ferris, Dennie Foster, Robert Graves, W. H. Gavitt, G. E. Heath, R. I. Hough, Bart Hough, Myron Hough, G. H. Helwig, Wm. Hunt, A. Hogeboom, W. H. Highshew. Will Hall, L. F. Johnson, L. Lyon, C. B. Lyon, Benjamin Miller, Wm. Meeks, J. T. Mann, C. McClarren, Woody Newcomer, Al. Norton. John Nicely, H. D. Peck, J. Q. Riddle, C. C. Riddle, R. Richardson, Edward Springer, A. B. Smith, G. W. Stokes, Charlie Smith, M. B. Schumbs, R. M. Scott, L. L. Sears, M. Snelbaker, H. H. Williams, J. P. Thiel, and S. Woodward.

The first fire was reported that on "Thursday, April 30, 1863, at about 2 p. m., a fire was discovered in the dwelling house of B. S. Waldron, about one hundred rods from the engine room. The engine and company were on hand soon after the fire was discovered, but on account of the scarcity of water did but little execution. The company afterwards took the engine to the reservoir, and worked it successfully," stated the report.

Mrs. Samuel Edgar reminiscently wrote to the Delta "Atlas" some years ago, regarding "Early Days in Old Fulton," and made reference to the Wauseon Fire Company. She wrote:

"It was either in '67 or '68 that Mr. Edgar and I were coming to Wauseon from our farm, south, now known as the Clinger-Serrick farm. We did not go to start a fire, but we discovered a fire in the little old woodshed on Main street, owned by the railroad company. How well I remember the little hose cart building, and what a hose cart it was in a case of fire. Mr. Edgar and Calvin Biddle got to the front, and called for help, and somebody called: 'Fire.' 'Fire.' Everybody, merchants, clerks, and farmers, turned out. Then the hose cart stuck in the mud, in front of Eager's store. The fire was put out, and the town saved. Now a beautiful park occupies the locality of the old woodshed."

Quoting again from the Fire Company records:

"On Saturday, May 30, 1863, the company met, and appointed a committee of three, 'to select a style of uniform, the company having voted to uniform themselves. At that meeting, a vote of thanks

was unanimously given to J. Q. Riddle, and the Phoenix Insurance Company, for a beautiful silvered trumpet, having upon it the inscription 'Presented to the Wauseon Fire Co. by the Phoenix Ins. Co., May, 1863.' On June 6th, 1863, the 'committee on Uniforms made their report, and were appointed a committee to, procure the cloth for making jackets, and the belts, and the caps already made.'" So that evidently the Fire Company was by that time well established.

The Council Records contain no further record to the Fire Company, or to fire equipment, until 1866, when it was decided to borrow $600, "for purchase of hose and fixtures for fire engine." In 1868, the Wauseon Fire Company transferred its engine and hose to the village council, and soon afterwards the village fire department was formed. In 1871, the village valuation was $171,882, and the total taxation was six mills, of which a one-half mill was apportioned to the Fire Department for its purposes.

The first reference made to remuneration to the mayor for his services as such was in 1872, when $20 was voted to Mayor Naaman Merrill. It is, of course, possible that the $4.50 shown on the financial statement of Wauseon's first treasurer, N. W. Jewell, as having been paid to Nathaniel Leggett, in 1858, was recognized as the mayoral stipend.

The First Epidemic

other than that which was almost chronic among the early settlers, who suffered much from malarial fever and ague, was an outbreak of small pox, in Wauseon, in April, 1862. Two cases were reported, and the council took prompt measures to deal with them, resolving: "that Henry Cone, and all the members of his family be required to stay closely at home, not to go out in the streets, nor in any portion of the village, and avoid coming in contact with any person or persons whatever, except those who may be sent by the proper authorities, to minister to the wants of said family"; and it was further resolved "that there be a red flag placed on the door of the residence of said Henry Cone, and kept there so long as they are afflicted with the small pox, and that there be a red flag placed on the corner of Fulton and Elm streets, as a signal to warn all persons, that the small pox exists in the locality." The Council further resolved: "That the Board of Health be requested to urge upon the attending physician, in any case of small pox, the necessity of changing his clothes on entering a house, to see such patient, and replacing the same on leaving, keeping the clothes used in the sick room in such a manner and place that the contagion will not be spread by any carelessness."

Apparently, the outbreak was confined to the Cone family, and it is to the credit of the village authorities that it recognized its liability to care for the stricken family; Mrs. George Lindeman, who volunteered to nurse the family through the affliction, was paid one dollar a day for such services, the money coming out of village funds.

Probably the most potential happening in the history of Wauseon was that whereby it became the county seat of Fulton. That event is fully described in another chapter, but the contest waged and won by Wauseon in 1869 opened a new era for the village, which thereafter, and rightly, took premier place among the incorporated places

of Fulton county. But before passing on to more recent history, it might be well to "sum up" the development effected by the pioneers of the village in the first fifteen years, or so, of its establishment; and also give some of those worthy "city fathers"—Wauseon will be a city some day, undoubtedly—brief biographical mention, before passing on.

Wauseon, from nothing we might say, had in fifteen years grown into a place of commanding importance in the county. By contrast with Ottokee, the county seat, which in 1868 had one hotel, three stores, court house, jail, and county offices Wauseon undoubtedly deserved premier place. Its taxable valuation stood at nearly $170,000; it had five churches, a large graded brick school building, several fine brick business blocks, the leading newspaper, the Northwestern Republican, and a population of nearer 2,000 than 1,500. "Brown's Gazetteer," of 1868, stated, of Wauseon: "The past seven years show a rapid progress, equalled by few, if any, on the air line road..... Within the past few years, several fine brick blocks have been put up, city, public, Masonic and Good Templars' halls established, giving tone, and bespeaking enterprise." Quoting further from the "Gazetteer," it appears that in 1868 there were in Wauseon: ten grocery stores, those of: M. S. Baker; Beach & Co. (H. H. Beach and H. L. Moseley, partners); Bloomer and Palmer (Albert S. Bloomer and Myron T. Palmer); Briggs & Co. (Alanson Briggs and David J. Disbrow); George Lipp; M. Mattison & Co.; John J. Robinson; Serrick and Shelley; T. O. Williams & Co. (Thos. W. Williams, and Gilbert S. Waite.) Six dry goods stores, those of: Clement and Greenleaf (Geo. S. Clement and Chas. C. Greenleaf); Eager, Cook & Co. (Zina & Hy E. Eager, Stephen H. Cook, Jas. P. Cawley & Noah K. Green); Hunt & Newcomer, (Wm. W. Hunt & Jas. K. Newcomer); Edward Koch; Francis A. Palmer; and Springer & Cornell (Isaac Springer and Jonathan C. Cornell); three furniture dealers, A. Bridge, Augustus Kaempfer, and Andrew Mikesell; two shoe stores, that of Ferris & King, and Daniel Ritzenthaler; two hardware dealers, John Q. Riddle and Garver Bros.; three drug stores, Read & Hollister, Andrew J. Knapp, and Melford D. Ford; several meat markets, and many tailoring and millinery establishments. Then industrial Wauseon included at that time: a flouring mills, owned by Brigham and Lyon (Joel Brigham and Marcus Lyon); a foundry, owned by David Andrews; four saw and planing mills, shingle mills, and sash door and blind factories, those of Beal Williams and Co., Cutshow & Co., William Meeks, Nevin & Brooks; several smithies and carpenter shops. Anson Huntington and William B. Olcott were in business as tanners; John P. Thiel was a brewer; and L. Stowe was a showman, and also a wagonmaker and blacksmith. and a cooperage was conducted by Zina Eager, employing thirty men.

The public City Hall was listed as being on the southwest corner of Fulton and Elm streets; E. L. Barber was mayor; Lorenzo Lyon, postmaster; and Rollin Ford, justice of the peace.

The early administrators and workers for Wauseon deserve credit for having developed the village so substantially within about fifteen years of its existence, and Ottokee had no logical argument, apart from its central location, with which to refute Wauseon's claim of place as the county seat.

The mayoral succession, from 1857 to 1870 is as follows: 1857,

Nathaniel Leggett; 1858, N. W. Jewell; 1859, Nathaniel Leggett; 1860, Anson Huntington; 1861, J. A. Durbin; 1882, J. W. Jewell; 1863, J. W. Jewell; 1864, E. F. Greenough, also in 1865; 1866, and 1867, Anson Huntington; 1868, E. L. Barber, A. J. Knapp taking his place before the end of the year; 1869 and 1870, A. J. Knapp.

Nathaniel Leggett was a very capable man, a pioneer of Fulton county, as well as of Wauseon. He was prominent in Swan Creek Township affairs, while it was still part of Lucas county, and was one of the leaders of the movement which culminated in the organization of Fulton county. He was the first treasurer of the county. By profession an attorney, he took active part in almost all phases of public affairs. Unfortunately, he died somewhat early in the life of the county His death on February 24, 1862, brought into establishment the Wauseon Cemetery, as will be narrated a few pages hence.

Noah W. Jewell was one of the capable physicians of Clinton Township, and gave much of his time to public affairs. His life will be reviewed in the Medical chapter.

Anson Huntington died at Garret, Indiana, December 17, 1881, aged 77 years. He suffered "a shock of palsy" four days before he died and did not recover consciousness. He came to Wauseon, from Massachusetts, in 1855, and at his request, his remains were brought back to Wauseon for burial. "He was a man of sterling qualities, strong and vigorous mind" and did "much to advocate the interests of the community."

E. F. Greenough was born in New Hampshire in 1808; graduated from Dartmouth College; settled in Danville, Pennsylvania, and practiced as an attorney until 1832, when he moved to Salisbury, New Hampshire, where he was a merchant. His son, Charles F., who later became so prominent a citizen of Wauseon, was born there in 1849. In 1859 E. F. Greenough retired from business and in the following year came to live in Wauseon, with the public affairs of which place he remained associated with until his death in 1875.

Col. Epaphras Lord Barber, one of the proprietors of Wauseon, and of its earliest projectors the one who remained longest a resident of it, was born in Cleveland, Ohio, in 1830; at eighteen he joined an engineer corps, but after a few months entered private school, two years later returning to engineering, and eventually becoming a civil engineer. His coming to Fulton county and to Wauseon has been hereinbefore narrated. After the railroad had been completely laid, he, in about 1856, severed his connection with the company, and took up permanent residence in Wauseon, two years later becoming station agent. He resigned two years later. When the outbreak of civil war came in 1861, he headed the first company raised for service in Fulton county, in April. He served in a number of regiments in 1861 and 1862, but at the end of that time was forced to resign, and return to Wauseon, his partner, Nathaniel Leggett, having died. In 1863, he established a banking house in Wauseon, taking into partnership Naaman Merrill, in 1865. Colonel Barber was probably the most effective of all the public workers for Wauseon during the first two or three decades of its existence. He died in April, 1899, and was buried in Wauseon Cemetery.

A. J. Knapp was born in Homer, New York, in 1822, and died near Wauseon in 1891. He came from Bellevue, Ohio, to Wauseon

in 1860. From 1860, through the period of war, he was postmaster, and also druggist. At one time he was in business as a grocer, but did not succeed. He was a prominent member of the Congregational Church, at Wauseon; was one of its twelve charter members, was its first clerk, and also choir leader. His death was hastened by a fall two years earlier, his hip being fractured, and the disease resulting taking a fatal course. He was much esteemed in Wauseon, as "a truly companionable man."

John H. Sargent, partner with Col. E. L. Barber in establishing Wauseon, was a resident of Cleveland, and at that time, and for the greater part of his life was a man of some prominence in that city. At one time, he was city engineer of Cleveland, and held many other important engineering appointments. He does not appear to have ever taken up residence in Wauseon.

Gen. E. L. Hayes was one of those who suffered materially by his national service during the Civil war. He was the principal merchant in Wauseon when he left in 1861 to take up arms for the nation, but he never again resumed that position. He later said: "The war almost ruined me financially. I came home with impaired health, disposed of what little was left, and came here (New Jersey) to start again in life.....today I am struggling along, as best I can." That was in 1903.

Isaac Springer was one of the most enterprising merchants of Wauseon, and also took prominent part in county affairs. He died in 1898, near Wauseon, aged 71 years. He served two terms as county treasurer, and twice as county auditor.

Henry Stern, one of the early merchants died in 1911. He was one of the charter members of the Oddfellows lodge in Wauseon, established in 1860.

Hiram Pritchard was responsible for much of the brick building done in Wauseon, from 1865. He later became one of the leading grocers, and was prominent in the organization of the People's Bank. He died in 1912.

Naaman Merrill, partner with Colonel Barber in banking and real estate business in Wauseon, was the son of Levi Merrill, one of the pioneer settlers in Fulton Township, in 1838, Naaman then being thirteen years old. He, Naaman, had good part in the building of the school system, was one of the pioneer teachers, and when the county had been only a few years established was appointed clerk of the courts. He held that county office for several years, and having read law in the meantime, was admitted to the bar of Fulton county. He died in 1879, the latter part of his life having been lived in Wauseon.

Marcus Lyon, partner with Joel Brigham, in the most important enterprise of early Wauseon days, died in 1902, aged 75 years. The Wauseon Flour Mill, eventually became one of the landmarks of the village, and is still one of the principal business undertakings of that place. When Marcus Lyon came to Wauseon, it had a population of only a few hundreds. He was interested in many phases of the business life of the place, but his chief interest was in the flour mill, first in partnership with Joel Brigham, and later with Messrs. Clement and Greenleaf.

Joel Brigham was one of the strong personalities among the strong

men who were early residents of Waueson. He came to Clinton Township in 1853, and to Wauseon in 1859. He was for some years a justice of the peace, was mayor of Wauseon twice, and for two terms was county commissioner. For over thirty years he was a trustee of the Wauseon Cemetery, serving in that capacity almost until his death, in 1908, at the age of ninety years.

Wauseon Cemetery.

Joel Brigham was one of the founders of the Wauseon Cemetery. Nathaniel Leggett, one of the proprietors of Wauseon, died on February 24, 1862, and "on the day after his death James Cornell, Anson Huntington, and Joel Brigham started out to locate a suitable place for a cemetery. After looking at several places, they finally decided to locate on the present site. At that time, the land was covered with

Centre Mound, Wauseon Cemetery.

heavy timber. Mr. Leggett was buried on February 26, 1862, and thus was the first person buried in this cemetery."

On March 13, 1865, the following named citizens of Wauseon formed themselves into a cemetery association, under the name of the Wauseon Cemetery Association: E. F. Greenough, W. C. Williams, James Cornell, N. W. Jewell, John Newcomer, E. L. Barber, Geo. S. Clement, L. B. Smith, Naaman Merrill, John Spillane, Anson Huntington, J. Q. Riddle, Joel Brigham, D. W. Hollister, Isaac Springer, F. J. Harper, M. D. Munn, Milo Porter, Jas. M. Gillett, R. A. Franks, D. O. Livermore, Jas. K. Newcomer, A. J. Knapp, M. E. Blizzard, Benj. Miller, Joseph Domitio, Geo. Woodward, A. C. Hough, Alanson Pike, Rollin Ford, A. Bridge, H. H. Beach.

A week later, in the office of E. F. Greenough, who presided, a meeting was held to pass by-laws; and at that meeting an assessment of ten dollars was made on each member. On April 6, 1865, Rollin Ford was chosen secretary, pro. tem., and by ballot the following were elected officers of the association: Isaac Springer, A. J. Knapp and

James M. Gillett, trustees; E. L. Barber, treasurer; Naaman Merrill, clerk. A year later, Joel Brigham became trustee, vice James M. Gillett.

On April 26, 1866, by unanimous consent, it was agreed that the original members of the association, "those who had borne the burden and heat of the day," should each be entitled to a lot in the cemetery at its appraised value, and that they should be entitled to make the first selection, the order of choice to be determined by the drawing of lots. Lots were drawn in the office of Mr. Greenough, and the first choice fell upon George S. Clement. On that day, the appraisement of lots was reduced, so that their value stood at $5.00, $8.00, $12.00, $15.00, $20.00 and $25.00, and the original members made selections, in the order in which their names were drawn.

A sale of lots by auction was held on April 30, 1866, but, the record states: "The attendance was very small. The people, who should be interested in fitting up and preparing their final resting place, seem to be so taken up with the cares of the world, the deceitfulness of riches, and the lust of other things, that they can pay no attention to things of greater moment."

On May 4, 1866, James K. Newcomer filed receipt of E. L. Barber, No. 1, amounting to $24.00, for payment in full of lots 10 and 11, in block K, the $10.00 advanced being refunded.

On May 8, 1866, the trustees bought from Alanson Pike, the lot of land lying south of the cemetery, between the cemetery and the railroad, two acres in extent, for $225, payable, partly, by nine months note. And evidently this purchase had some connection with the note executed on September 5, 1866, by the trustees, for $220, in favor of Abraham Hogeboom, who loaned that sum of money "to replenish the treasury" of the association. The association was however still in financial difficulties on April 5, 1867, when a meeting was held in the office of E. F. Greenough "for the purpose of taking into consideration ways and means for improving the cemetery grounds, and liquidating the debt accruing in the purchase of land." Joel Brigham and M. D. Munn were appointed a committee "to advise with the township trustees and village council, as to taking control of the cemetery." On April 12, 1867, it was resolved: "That the trustees of the Wauseon Cemetery Association transfer the control of the Association..... to the trustees of Clinton Township, and the incorporated village of Wauseon, conjointly."

So, it happened that the Wauseon Cemetery passed into the control, conjointly, of Clinton Township, and the village of Wauseon, on April 27, 1865, the council and trustees agreeing to assume the debts against the association, "not to exceed $780." The lands conveyed were nine and one-half acres, "being the same land conveyed by E. L. Barber, trustee, and Sophia H. Barber, by deed, 19th December, 1865, to Isaac Springer, A. J. Knapp, and Joel Brigham, trustees of the Wauseon Cemetery Association; and also the land conveyed by Alanson Pike, by deed dated May 8, 1866, to the said and named trustees."

The care of the cemetery by the council and township officials since that year has been praiseworthy and thorough. Wauseon now has as well-kept a burial ground as there is, probably, in northwestern

Ohio. And its financial status is sound. Clinton Township trustees also have guardianship of the Bayes Cemetery.

The Schools

Rufus Briggs writing in 1903 to the "Fulton County Tribune," stated that a school was in operation in Clinton Township, as early as 1838. He wrote: "The first school was taught by Erastus Briggs (his father) in the winter of 1838, in the log house previously occupied by Elisha Williams. The house was occupied about two or three weeks, when it burned down, and destroyed all the books, which was a great loss."

The same writer, in another article, stated that the log schoolhouse was situated on the north line, southeast quarter of section 25, and that nineteen children attended the first brief session, namely: John H., J. M., L. B., T. R., and Laura Williams; Cyrus, Calvin, and Hannah Coy; William, Rufus, and Lucia Huntington; Cornelia, Luther, and Waitman Lamb; Chester, Catherine, Rufus, Marie, and Roena Briggs. The burning of the schoolhouse ended the schooling for that year.

The next school was taught by Miss Cornelia Ives, in 1839. For the purpose a room in the log house of Erastus Briggs was used. Miss Ives taught for a session of two months, for one dollar a week.

In the winter of 1839-40, a school was conducted by Mr. West, at West Barre. Regarding this school, Charles W. Cornell, of Wauseon, recently wrote: "The first school I attended was in 1839, over on the ridge, at West Barre, then in Henry county, as the line between Lucas and Henry counties was there at that time.....My first school teacher was J. C. West, a Baptist preacher from Defiance. He received $15 a month, and his board, for his services. We wanted the county to aid us in meeting the expense of conducting our school, so the next year we moved the schoolhouse across the road into York Township, and hired Mr. West again.....Again our application for financial relief was filed,.....and again we met disappointment, the land agents refusing to give aid, as there were only three families in York Township."

In 1839, according to Rufus Briggs, "a log schoolhouse was built on the southeast quarter of section 15, known as the Losure, or Tedrow district." Lorenzo Bennett was the first teacher in that school, and he was paid a salary of $10, a month. The pupils were C. H. Losure, and five children of the Tedrow family, Rachel, Catherine, Jeremiah, Isaiah and William. That school "was not used long" stated Thomas Mikesell.

In the winter of 1840, school was held in a log cabin erected on February 21st of that year on the east line of the Elisha Williams Farm. Joseph Jewell was the teacher for the winter term,1840-41, and was paid a monthly salary of fourteen dollars. In 1844-45, Gilbert Clark taught school in the Williams District for sixteen dollars a month, and boarded himself out of that stipend. In 1846, G. S. Barnes was the teacher. He was paid thirteen dollars a month, and was boarded by patrons of the school. Thomas W. Williams succeeded him as teacher, receiving eleven dollars a month. Miss Taft, and Michael Handy were the teachers during the next four years, the former receiving $1.50 a week, and Michael Handy $13.00 a month.

Thomas Mikesell's "History of Fulton County" (1905) refers to a schoolhouse built, in 1840, in the centre of section 14, stating that it had a chimney of brick, made by John Tigert, and in a later newspaper article, the same authority affirmed that "Long Bill" Jones taught in that school in 1840, adding that other later teachers thereat were Ben Bulger, William Fraker, Gamaliel Barnes, Betty Fleming, Elizabeth Cole, and Mrs. Amanda Pease.

"Charley" Cornell, writing regarding early schools some years ago, gave out the information that: "In 1841.....the first schoolhouse was built in Clinton Township. It was erected on the east side of section 26. It was built of logs, cut out of the wood which surrounded the building. The windows were covered with paper, to let in the light, and keep out the cold, as we had no glass. The seats were puncheon, with legs driven in, while the desks were rough boards fastened to the wall.....It was a rough crude affair, but it was the best that those pioneers could do. It was in that building and district that the public system was started in Clinton Township. A school organization was perfected, and the district received aid from the government."

The earlier schools therefore must have been maintained by family subscription, although there is evidence that at least one other school district, the Tedrow District, received a money grant, for school purposes, out of Lucas county funds in that year. Cornell further stated: "The first teacher to hold school in that schoolhouse.....was Michael Handy, then a young man who had come from Detroit, and was formerly of New York. The first lady teacher.....was Mary Clough. Joseph Jewell taught in the school in its second year, and children came from a distance of six or seven miles to attend the school. Winter terms were all we had in those days, as everyone who was large enough to work had to help clear the forests and care for the crops. Arithmetic, reading, writing, geography, and a little grammar, was all that was taught. The contrast in the methods of teaching, and the text books used in those days, is no greater than between the log schoolhouse, with its puncheon seats, rough board desks, the open fireplace, and the teacher with his water beech birch and.....published rules, any refraction of which meant the use of the birch, and the modern schoolhouse, with all the latest improvements,.....Out of those pioneer schools grew strong fearless men, with a big vision.....who laid the foundation of our present development and prosperity."

Charles W. Cornell, who in the early '50s was himself a teacher in Fulton county, and later became a Civil war veteran, was a worthy product of the pioneer school of Clinton Township. For almost four years he served his country, and his colonel wrote of him: "He was always conspicuous for his splendid courage, and great gallantry, on every field." And many others of the hundreds of sturdy young patriots who rallied to the Union, from Fulton county in 1861-65, passed their school years in the spartan environment of the pioneer school.

A creditable review of the history of Wauseon schools was written in 1910, by H. B. Sohn, and much of what follows is taken from that review. It appears that: "there was no school in Wauseon until the fall of 1854, when a temporary school was held in the carpenter shop of George Beal, on South Fulton street, now occupied by the Tribune Office, and then known as lot No. 3 of the newly incorporated village.

Miss Lidea Gorsuch, who later became Mrs. James Hogeboom, taught the winter term of this school, and Mrs. Zerada Leggett Waldron, taught the summer term. Provision for a public school was made immediately following the incorporation of the village, and one of the incorporators, Epaphras L. Barber, set aside ground on the northeast corner of Clinton and Elm streets, to be used exclusively for school purposes. The first schoolhouse was erected on the site in 1856, and was the plain two-story frame building, with its lower and upper room, so popularly known as the Old White School (Little White Schoolhouse). This first schoolhouse was built by Ben Hogeboom, father of James and Abe Hogeboom."

It will be interesting here to give an extract from a reminiscent article written about fifteen years ago by James Hogeboom. The extract begins: "It was in the spring of 1855 when father moved his family to Wauseon; and what a wilderness it was then.....After being here a few months, I became disgusted with the whole country, and I told father that if he wanted to stay in this mudhole, to be eaten alive by the mosquitoes, or die of ague, he should stay, but that I was going out of the place. Father was a carpenter, and I had always worked with him at his trade. It was along about this time that he was awarded the contract for building the 'Little White School House,' where for half a century, or more, the babes of this little city first learned to read and write. Father wanted me to stay and help him with the building, which I did.

"The logs from which the lumber for this little schoolhouse was sawed were cut from the school lot, or from the streets of the village. Thomas Bayes had built a sawmill, and was ready to install the machinery when he sold it to William Meeks and Thomas Frazier. We hired Dora Swan to haul the logs to this mill, where they were sawed for the building, it being the first sawing done in Wauseon. On April 5, 1856, everything was ready and the 'Little White School-House' was raised. It was completed and ready for school that fall, father receiving $1,100 for it, having furnished everything, including seats. In the winter of 1856-57, John Deming and Miss Comstock taught school in this new building, being the first teachers."

Quoting again from Sohn's "Souvenir History of the Wauseon Public Schools," it appears that:

"Wauseon grew very rapidly during the first few years of its settlement, and it was only a little while after the erection of the White School that more school room was needed. Accordingly, a small one-story brick schoolhouse was built on the north side of West Chestnut street, the property still standing as a residence. Children from the south end of the village attended this school, which was used for the primary grades, but this second schoolhouse was not long used, for in 1868, a special school district having been created, of which Wauseon was the larger part, there was erected on the northwest corner of Elm and Monroe streets the plain three-story brick building that, a few years ago, was remodeled for use as a county hospital. The contract for the building was given to J. Q. Riddle for $15,000, and he employed to build it a man by the name of J. N. Cutshaw. The building had to be condemned twenty-six years later, and for several years before that time was in a deplorable condition.

"When the Rev. Solomon Metzler, and his associates asked the

assistance of the municipality in the erection and maintenance of a normal school building, certain local residents protested.....Rev. Mr. Metzler insisted.....(and).....the people of the town voted a bond issue for the erection of a normal school building, and house for boarding of out-of-town students. Local residents furnished money for the sites. A modern three-story brick and stone building was built for the school, between East Elm and Beech streets, costing two-thirds as much as our present high school building. From the opening of the normal school in 1888, until shortly before its discontinuance, the high school students attended classes there, the old brick school being used entirely for pupils of the grammar and intermediate grades. When the Normal was discontinued.....the lease was to revert to the municipality. However, some of the teachers, claiming they had lost money

THE OLD NORMAL SCHOOL BUILDING, WAUSEON, NOW USED FOR PUBLIC ELEMENTARY SCHOOL.

in the enterprise, tried to prevent the village authorities from taking possession of the building.....In the meantime, the high school was accommodated in the city hall. Matters were brought to a crisis in the winter of 1893-94 by the cracking of the walls of the old brick schoolhouse, due to the action of the quicksand beneath its foundation.....The village immediately took possession of the normal school building for the use of the intermediate and grammar grades, the high school students waiting until the following fall, to permit part of the building to be altered. This building was the home of all the grades, with the exception of the primary, until the spring of 1908, when the new high school building was completed. The latter structure, a modern, two-story building, of red pressed brick and stone, was erected at a cost of $35,000, in 1907-08, and today is regarded by school authorities throughout Ohio, as one of the best of its size to be

found anywhere. Besides providing an assembly hall, class and laboratory rooms ample for a high school of 250 students, it houses the first two primary grades, and in the basement has a gymnasium for the use of the students.

Linked inseparably with the history of Wauseon schools are the teachers.....Among the very earliest were Mrs. Hannah Comstock Tubbs, the first teacher in the White School, in the fall of 1856, John Spillane, a strict disciplinarian, Mrs. Mary Huntington Hunt, Mrs. Ella Jewell Tubbs, Miss Deming, Mrs. Libbie Lyon, and Mrs. Nellie Bickford. The latter taught in the schools of the county for twenty-six years (Mrs. Libbie Durgin Lyon taught also for many years, and for many years was a member of the Board of Education)..... Mrs. Augustus Wood was another pioneer teacher.....Mrs. Wood organized the town's first kindergarten class. Another 'select' school of early days was for students of higher branches, conducted by

THE "LITTLE WHITE SCHOOL HOUSE," WHEREIN MRS. ADDIE DEMERRIT "REIGNED AS MOTHER-QUEEN AND TEACHER" FOR THIRTY-TWO YEARS.

J. O. Allen, who in 1860, or 1861, had taught the upper room in the old White School. Mr. Allen's select school was situated in the old Mikesell Building, a three-story brick structure that occupied the site of the Cochrane Building, on Elm and Fulton streets. Others of the earliest teachers of the grades below the high school were Mrs. W. C. Kelley, Martha Jordan Moore, Mrs. Clay, Sarah A. Johnson, Hattie Herbert, Miss Allen, Mrs. Ellen Spring Anderson, Mrs. Minnie Waid Darby, Mrs. Anna Fleet Miller, Mrs. Anna Butler Brinkman, Miss E. R. Lyon, Lottie Abbott, Mrs. Alice Powers Smith and her sister Mrs. Buell, Mrs. Amanda Jones Clark, Mrs. Clara Williams Browning, and Mrs. Emma Brigham Taft.....The record for long service is held by Mrs. Addie DeMeritt, who, when she retired in 1909, had taught thirty-three years. Almost as remarkable is the record of Mrs. Phoebe Riddle, long teacher of the sixth grade, who taught practically a quarter of a century."

Regarding the almost life-long service of Mrs. DeMeritt, as school teacher, the following was written shortly after she died in 1919:

"It has fallen to the lot of few people to exert a greater influence upon the lives of the children of Wauseon and vicinity than that of Mrs. DeMerritt. For thirty-two years she taught the second-grade pupils of our public schools. It was in the 'Little White School House' where she reigned as the mother queen and teacher of those American jewels.....As the message of her death passed from one to another, frequent was the expression heard: 'She was one of my first teachers, and I will ever remember her for the kindness and patience shown me, and for the inspiration of the nobler and better things in life I gained from her.' No finer tribute could be paid to the worth of any life than this."

Continuing, from Mr. Sohn's article:

"The very first of these teachers (high school), who presided over the upper room of the 'Old White School,' teaching grammar as well as high school branches, was John Deming, who taught here in the late '50s. About 1860, or 1861, J. O. Allen was the teacher, and in 1861 a man by the name of Delano, from Cleveland, took charge .....During war times, there were the two Watterson brothers, one succeeding the other.....In 1865 D. L. Hinckley was principal, and was succeeded that year by the most distinguished of all our high school teachers, at least in name—Marquis de Lafayette Buell —who held the position for two years. Miss Emma Springer was principal in 1870, another woman principal, Mary A. Curtiss.....succeeding her.....The real launching of the high school, on a farm basis probably came in 1875. On July 4th of that year, the board of education, meeting in the office of President Albert Deyo, took under contract, as superintendent, a youth fresh from Marietta College.....This.....teacher was J. E. Sater, now United States district judge at Columbus. Remaining here until the early '80s, Mr. Sater put the school on a higher grade than it had ever been before.. ....He also organized the high school Alumni Association..... But Mr. Sater was ambitious to become a lawyer, and studied for the profession while yet in Wauseon. Soon after Mr. Sater, came a superintendent by the name of Job H. Scott.....Then came A. G. Crouse, one of the most popular teachers Wauseon has ever had.....But he was too able to remain long in Wauseon, leaving in 1885.....His successor was W. S. Kennedy."

Professor C. J. Biery was superintendent for more than a decade, and a very capable one. In 1914, when, under the new school laws, all the schools of the county passed under the direct control of the county board of education, he was appointed county school superintendent, resigning that office a year later, to accept a professorship at the State Normal College, Bowling Green, Ohio. As principal of Wauseon High School, he was succeeded by M. L. Altstetter, who in 1919 asked for an extended leave of absence, his place being taken by P. S. Johnson, the present principal.

Extensive review cannot here be given to the history of the township schools. In 1888, there were twelve school districts in Clinton Township, in addition to the Wauseon district, and a special joint district at Pettisville, that schoolhouse being located in Clinton Township, but many of its pupils being from German Township. And

at that time all districts were provided with substantial well-built structures.

The Clinton Township schools of the present (1920) consist of nine one-room elementary district schools, the aggregate value of which is $8,700. In 1919 the enrollment was 307. In addition there are the Wauseon schools, elementary and high, valued at $78,100, and serving 442 pupils in elementary grades, and 218 in high. Pettisville is a separate rural district, the two-room schoolhouse there being of second grade consolidated class. It is valued at $3,530, and 63 scholars were enrolled for the 1919 sessions.

The boards of education of the three Clinton Township school districts are: Wauseon district; Dr. E. G. Cole, president; G. Scott Roos, clerk, P. M. Clingaman, A. M. Barber, and Carl F. Orth; Pettisville Special district: W. J. Weber, president; Geo. McGuffin, clerk; A. J. Lantz, F. D. Lehman, and Adam Britsch; Clinton Township district: C. R. Shadle, president; J. F. Dimke, clerk; O. E. Meller, J. E. Crew, J. C. Barckert, and John Gorsuch.

Wauseon Churches

The founding of Wauseon churches was prefaced, of course, by religious activities in Clinton Township many years before Wauseon came into existence, its members being, in great measure, drawn from those pioneer church societies of the township. The Rev. Uriel Spencer, an ordained Methodist minister was probably the first to hold religious services in Clinton Township. He preached in the log cabin of Elisha Huntington in October, 1836, and later in other cabins in the settlement. And a class of the Disciples, or Campbellite, church was organized early, and meetings held in Elisha Williams' cabin, or in the cabin used for school purposes in the Williams district. Other denominations formed societies in the settlement soon after the pioneers came in sufficient numbers. In 1840, or 1841, the Rev. J. C. West, a Baptist minister from Defiance, taught school at West Barre, and held what might be termed a religious revival at that place, using the school house for his meetings. "Quite a number of persons were converted and baptized in Turkey Foot Creek, near the home of a Mr. Wise." It is somewhat difficult to determine which denomination was the first to actually build a house set apart exclusively for church purposes. One authority states that "the first church of any denomination was erected at Pettisville, by the Baptist Society; another affirms that "the first church, or house of public worship, built in Clinton Township was erected by the Campbellites, or Disciples of Christ, on the east side of a public highway, in section 17, near the present residence of A. R. Loveland. It was a frame building, and was erected about 1852."

Of Wauseon churches, the first to be built was the frame church which stood until 1875 on the northeast corner of Fulton and Elm streets, where now is the brick block occupied by the Wauseon "Republican." The construction of the frame church by the Methodist Society was begun in 1855, and it was dedicated in 1857. In the '70s, after the Methodists had built their larger brick church, the wooden one was purchased by the Catholic Society, and moved to the northwest corner of Clinton street, where it was for many years known

as St. Caspar's Church. The Congregational Society of Wauseon was organized in 1861, and a church built in 1864. The Disciples or Christian Church was organized in 1862, but a church building was not erected until 1864, in which year the First Baptist Church, of Wauseon, was organized. The church was built in 1868. Other churches were of later establishment.

METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH. The "History of the Central Ohio Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church," published in 1914, by the Methodist Book Concern, states, regarding the Wauseon Methodist Episcopal Church:

"When the settlers came to the vicinity of what is now Wauseon, they brought their religion along with them. Among them, from 1837 on, were Methodists. The Rev. Chas. Babcock, of Waterville Circuit, coming in 1838, was the first preacher. Their number increased

FULTON STREET, WAUSEON, LOOKING NORTH
(The M. E. Church spire is seen in distance.)

as the years passed, the services being held in log cabins, and then .....in log schoolhouses and barns.....All were common people, living in the country, there being no village nearer than seven or eight miles.

"Doubtless the first Methodist preacher in that vicinity was the Rev. Uriel Spencer, who settled a few miles east of Wauseon, in 1835 or 1836. He had to give up the regular ministry because of throat trouble, and came here.....and preached occasionally.

"The pastors who served the church here from 1838 to 1860, when the church had its first resident pastor, were as follows: Chas Babcock, Alex Campbell, Liberty Prentiss, J. W. Brakefield, Hatch and Thomas, Wm. Thatcher, and Mower, Octavius Waters, J. M. Wil-

cox, Hy. Warner, John Crabb and Thompson. Ambrose Hollington, and John Fraunfelter. Martin Perkey, W. W. Winters and D. D. S. Reagh, A. B. Poe and P. Steven. In 1860 a parsonage was built in Wauseon, and it became a station. The station preachers from 1860, in order of service, were: Lewis J. Dale, F. L. Harper, P. R. Henderson, A. M. Corey, Benjamin Herbert, J. R. Colgan, C. G. Ferris, E. A. Berry, N. B. C. Love, John Wilson, G. H. Priddy, E. S. Dunham, J. D. Simms, J. H. Fitzwater, J. W. Donnan, D. F. Helms, A. B. Leonard, M. D. Baumgardner, W. E. Hill, Wm. McK. Brackney, F. E. Higbie, W. W. Lance, Daniel Carter, C. W. Hoffman, Geo. B. Wiltsie, and S. R. Dunham, present pastor. Early officials of the church included James Pease, John Linfoot, Wm. Mikesell, Wm. Baves, Thomas Bayes, and Daniel Ritzenthaler."

The record above-quoted further states:

"The first church building in Wauseon was the Methodist, and was started in 1855, when the town was one year old, and.....dedicated in 1857, by Rev. Thomas Barkdull, a presiding elder of the early days. This was a frame building, and cost $1,300. In 1874, the construction of the present two-story brick building was begun. It cost $15,000, and was dedicated in August, or September, 1875. It was repaired and added to in 1913, at a cost of nearly $3,500.

"A parsonage was built in 1860, on the same lot with the church and was used until 1874, when it was sold, and the new church placed on part of the same ground it had occupied. Then, until 1903, there was no residence for pastors. In 1903, a house and lot were bought, for $2,000."

The Wauseon Methodist Episcopal Church is a strong and active organization. Its Sunday School is prosperous, and is much strengthened by the enthusiasm of its men's and women's Bible classes.

First Congregational Church of Wauseon. The Congregational Society of Wauseon was organized on June 11, 1861, growing out of the society founded at Lena, in 1854, and its early history is briefly sketched in the "Manual of the Congregational Church, in Wauseon, Ohio" published in 1874. It stated:

"This church was organized June 11, 1861, by Rev. James R. Wright, assisted by J. G. W. Coles, of Bellevue, Ohio. It consisted of the following named persons: A. J. Knapp and wife, Joel Lyon and wife, Mrs. E. F. Greenough, Mrs. Judith Dudley, Jerome H. Shaw, and John Bates. A. J. Knapp was elected clerk, Mr. Wright engaged to preach every other Sabbath, occupying the Methodist Episcopal Church, and closed his labors July, 1862. In September, 1862, Rev. Wm. Bridgman, of Oberlin, was engaged to supply the pulpit, and remained four months. In June, 1863, Rev. Gideon Dana was called .....and remained two years. In the Winter and Spring of 1863, arrangements were matured for the erection of a house of worship, which was built at a cost of $2,174.85, including lot and fixtures, and was dedicated, October 7, 1864, Rev. Amzi Barber, of Geneva, Ohio, preaching the sermon. Immediately following the dedication of the house the church enjoyed a revival, the result of which was 23 were united to the church. Under Mr. Dana's leadership the membership increased by 53.....In September, 1865, Rev. G. W. Walker became pastor, and continued until August 1, 1869.....In July, 1869, Rev. D. D. Waugh was called to the pastorate.....and continued

until June 1st, 1872.....During the winter of 1871 and 1872, the house of worship was enlarged by 16 feet, and by a vestry, 24x18 feet, at a cost of $1,250.00.....November 1, 1872, Rev. Mr. Edwards was employed.....In the June following the Church and Society extended a unanimous call to Rev. F. W. Dickinson, which he accepted."

The total membership of the church in 1874 was 160. But during the next three decades, the membership outgrew the capacity of the first frame building, and early in the new century prominent members sought to bring the church to a unanimous decision to rebuild. That was effected, and on Sunday, February 5, 1905, the last morning service was held in the old church, a new and beautiful stone church having been erected, on the southeast corner of Clinton and Elm streets, at a cost of more than $16,000, which figure was somewhat in excess of the estimated cost. The new church, "a model of beauty and convenience" was dedicated on February 12, 1905, by

THE ARCADE, WAUSEON.

Dr. H. C. King, president of Oberlin College, whose text was "The Surpassing Significance of the Christian Church." The pastor of the church, Rev. F. E. Kenyon, and his building committee, had labored diligently that the passing into the new church should be attended with success, and although the cost exceeded, by several thousand dollars, the original amount set aside for the building, the cost was met soon after the building was completed, and occupied, with the exception of $1,600, which had been pledged, and was soon collected. The building has adequately met the needs of the church since that time. The total seating capacity of the auditorium and Sunday School rooms, which are separated from it by sliding doors, is about five hundred persons. The Rev. F. E. Keynon was pastor for many years. He is still resident in Wauseon, and prominent in the church, being editor and part-owner of the "Fulton County Tribune," one of the long-established newspapers of the county seat. The Rev. A. B. Eby was pastor until quite recently, resigning the pastorate, so that he

might join in the work of the Survey Department, of the Interchurch World Movement. He made a religious survey of Fulton County, for that organization.

First Christian Church, of Wauseon, was organized in 1862, the principal founders being Elder L. L. Carpenter, and Brother Burnet. The Funk family, into which Elder Carpenter married, also has place among the founders of that church. Elder Carpenter was county treasurer in 1862, and had consequently to reside in Ottokee, which probably is the reason why the Rev. Elberry Smith is named as having been the first pastor. At the end of his term as county treasurer, Elder Carpenter took up residence in Wauseon, and became pastor of the Wauseon church. A house of worship was erected in 1864, on the north side of Elm street, east of Fulton, and that has ever since been the location of the church. Forty-three years later a magnificent pressed brick and stone structure replaced the original building. It was dedicated in October 1907, by the church's principal founder, Elder L. L. Carpenter, who returned to Wauseon, from Wabash, Indiana, for the purpose. The original building, during the forty years, had many times been enlarged, but eventually it was found necessary to rebuild; and in order to adequately meet the prospective requirements of the rapidly-growing church a building with seating capacity for 800 persons was decided upon, and eventually built, at a cost of more than $23,000, $9,000 of which was raised at the dedicatory services. The pastor of the church at the time of rebuilding, and for some years previous to that, was the Rev. Chas R. Oakley, and much of the credit for the successful consummation of the project is due to his energetic and forceful efforts. The church is constructed of white pressed brick, with stone trimmings, and the architectural design is very pleasing.

It is not possible to name all the pastors, but the names of a few, who were early in the charge, are on record. Following Elder Carpenter, Elder Parker became pastor; then, in chronological order, came Elders Baker, Gibbs, Terry, White, Atwater, Nesslage, Newton, and Moore. The church is now in a very prosperous condition, and has a thriving Sunday School; but very soon they will lose their pastor, C. F. Evans, who has been with them for three years. He has tendered his resignation, to take effect in August, 1920, and his successor has not yet been appointed.

The First Baptist Church, of Wauseon, dates back to 1868. The Baptist Society was organized in 1864, and it is understood that its first pastor was the Rev. George Leonard. The Baptists have the distinction of having been the first to build a brick, or stone, church in Wauseon, and the pioneer members of that church in Wauseon must have been men of broad vision, or of substantial means and liberal disposition, for their numbers were then few, yet the church was well and substantially builded, and has served the needs of the denomination to this day. Hiram L. Moseley was one of the pioneers of the church, and undoubtedly its affairs were close to his heart. He, one of the early merchants of Wauseon, lived almost opposite the church, and appears to have given much time to its affairs. His daughter states that her mother often, in the late '60s, while the church was under construction, would, at the lunch hour "go out and look through the woods toward town to see if Mr. Moseley was on his way home,"

and that, having caught sight of him, she would hurry indoors and serve the dinner. But more than once he did not come until the dinner had become cold. He had "been over to see how things were progressing with the church building," and "he thought more of climbing the church tower than of his dinner." Another of the founders was Abraham Falconer. He and Moseley were deacons for many years. Early ministers were Homer Eddy, J. J. Davis, and Stephen F. Massett. The society has followed an even course during the almost sixty years of its existence, and has contributed much to the religious upbringing of the people of Wauseon. Church records are not available, but its progress has apparently been good. At present the church is without a pastor.

St. Caspar's Roman Catholic Church. The members of the Catholic Church, in Fulton county, were in the early days of settlement visited by missionary priests, who came from Cincinnati. There were more Catholics in German Township than in any other township, and the records consequently centre in Archbold, which was the first of the Fulton county towns to have a resident pastor. That occurred in 1875, prior to which the small groups of Catholics throughout the territory constituted missions, visited periodically by mission priests; and it was the duty of the resident pastor at Archbold to care for the spiritual needs of all the people of the church living along the "Air Line," from Swanton to Edgerton, and including missions at Swanton, Delta, Wauseon, Archbold, Stryker, and Bryan. The records go back to 1850, and the mission priests sent into the county during the next twenty-five years were: 1850, Rev. Thilieres; 1858-65, A. Hoeffel; 1865-67, N. Kirch; 1867-69, P. Baker; 1869-70, I. Eyler and Monsignor Rappe; 1870-73, Charles Braschler; 1873-75, L. Vogt. Father H. Delbaer was the first resident pastor, and 1877 he was succeeded by N. S. Franche. In 1881 came F. Nunan; in 1882, Father Primean; in 1884, G. C. Schoeneman; in 1886, F. H. Muehlenbeck; and in 1898, Father Peter H. Janssen.

St. Caspar's Parish, in Wauseon, may be assumed to have well begun its existence when the old Methodist Church was acquired, in 1875, and removed to the northwest corner of Clinton street, and there repaired, and made suitable for the purposes of worship, by the Catholic Society of Wauseon. It was probably during the pastorate of Father Vogt that arrangements were made to purchase the Methodist Church building. It served as St. Caspar's Church until destroyed by fire in 1894. At that time, the communicants of the Catholic Church in Wauseon numbered only about twenty families; nevertheless the destruction of their church did not dishearten them, and they made immediate plans for the erection of a larger brick church building. It was dedicated in 1895, and though simple in style has well served the Catholics of the vicinity since, as a place of worship. Father Muehlenbeck was pastor at that time, and it was mainly by his efforts that the liabilities incurred in the erection of the church were met. Rev. P. H. Janssen succeeded Father Muehlenbeck, and served the congregation for fourteen years, until Wauseon was attached to Swanton. Fathers Berthelot, Keibel, Elder, Kennedy, and McFadden, successively, and faithfully, looked after the spiritual welfare of the parish, until the appointment of a resident pastor. The parish had for several years desired a resident pastor, and the Bishop of

Toledo finally, in 1919, appointed Rev. Thomas Quinlan, who took charge on Thanksgiving Day, 1919.

The parish purchased ground for its own cemetery, in 1911, and has since beautified and maintained it.

The congregation is small, scarcely fifty families, but they are devout and industrious people, and are deserving of praise for having so well maintained St. Caspar's Church.

The United Brethren Church, Wauseon, was formed in 1878, according to the official records of the "Fulton Circuit, Michigan Annual Conference, of the United Brethren in Christ." The Rev. S. P. Klotz was circuit preacher in 1875-78, and in 1877 the circuit included the following named church societies: Olive Branch, Zion, Pleasant Grove, Spring Hill, Etna, and Union. The circuit preacher's annual report to the 1878 conference recorded that he had "formed a new class of forty-five at Wauseon." It is presumed that so the Wauseon church came into existence, although the compiler of the "History of Henry and Fulton Counties" (1888), made the following statement: "The United Brethren Church in Wauseon is largely the result of the efforts of an aged retired preacher of that faith, named John Miller, who, desiring a place of worship for the people living in Newcomer's Addition, built, in 1874, a small house of worship out of his own means, near the center of the addition, on land belonging to himself, and which by common consent was called Miller's Chapel. This was the neuclus for the people of that faith, and they grew in numbers and resources until, in 1879, they began, and in 1880 completed, a good brick meeting-house, on the east side of Fulton avenue, its dedication taking place in August, 1880. Bishop Weaver conducted the dedicatory services."

R. C. Skeels, of Chestnut street, Wauseon, the only surviving charter-member of the Wauseon Church, states that "in 1876 or 1877, Uncle Miller built a little house at the edge of town, and had Klotz dedicate it. There were only a few members, but he held a meeting, and had quite a revival, and so formed the Brethren," which statement harmonizes with the circuit preacher's report, in 1878, which report may have covered the activities of the previous year. Mr. Skeels, who for forty years was prominent in the church, says that the "Rev. S. P. Klotz was the preacher at Zion, Delta, Church for a couple of years, and was sent from there to organize a Wauseon class." The church opened in 1880 cost $3,000 to erect, and at the outset, and for many years thereafter, was held, jointly, by the United Brethren Church and the German Brethren, the former society eventually acquiring the share of the German society. The first pastor was G. W. Crawford. J. W. Lilley was presiding elder for several years, and the Rev. S. P. Klotz again came and held the charge for a year or so. Other well-liked pastors were Hendrickson and Williams; and the Rev. C. P. Hopkins, the present pastor, has made many friends since he took charge. The church members are now discussing the desirability, or otherwise, of building a larger church. Among prominent early laymen of the church were members of the Mikesell family, and H. W. Cherry, "Billy" Wier, and several members of the Skeels family.

The Trinity Church of the Evangelical Association, of Wauseon, was built in 1895, on West Chestnut street, and was the cul-

mination of the efforts of more than twenty years of gradual growth of the association. Members of the Hartman family were among those early prominent in the affairs of the Evangelical Association, and a church known as the Hartman Church, or as the Evangelical Church of the Evangelical Association was founded in 1872, and built about two miles west of the village of Wauseon. The Wauseon society, in the '80s, rented a room on Elm street, in the Cheadle block, for their services, and they grew steadily as the years passed. It has been stated that "some of their pastors have been noted for their humble piety and devotion to the cause of practical religion, and have accomplished much permanent good."

The Church of God, a small association of devout and conscientious citizens, was founded about thirty years ago. Mrs. Sophie Becker, Nathan Gorsuch and his wife, Fred Becker, and others of like conviction on religious matters, held meetings at Ottokee, and the movement spread to Wauseon, and meetings were for some time continued in private homes in that village. About nine years ago, in 1911, the present church building, of cement block construction, was erected on the 500 block of North Fulton street, west. The building cost about $2,500, and was dedicated in December, 1911, by the Rev. J. L. Williams, of Stoneboro, Pennsylvania. David M. Gerrick, of Auburn, Indiana, was appointed resident pastor in 1911, and has so continued to the present. There are about thirty-five church members, and a good Sunday School is conducted.

The Christian Science Society of Wauseon, branch of the mother church in Boston, Massachusetts, was organized in 1911, with eleven chartered members. The dwelling house, No. 128 Clinton street, has been remodeled, in the form of an auditorium, and services are regularly held. Mr. L. H. Devo, one of the founders, is chairman of the board of directors; D. W. Raymond is first reader; and Ellen Raymond is second reader.

The Lutheran Church, which for many years shared with the United Brethren the church building on the east side of North Fulton street, has grown unostentatiously but steadily, having members of strong faith, and firm and unchanging conviction. A fine brick church was built by them in 1915.

The Wauseon Church of the Nazarene was incorporated on March 13, 1920, following organization in 1919, that action being the outcome of meetings instituted about three years ago, when a Nazarene Mission and Sunday School began to hold their services in Oddfellows Hall, N. Fulton Street, being then known as the Pentacostal-Nazarene Mission. Soon after the organization of the church in 1919, the building situated on the corner of Oak and Franklin streets was purchased, as was also the corner lot, but the building has not yet been used for church services. The first pastor was L. E. Gratton. He was succeeded by Ernest Bradford, present pastor. The church trustees are C. E. Root, Mrs. C. E. Root, Ray S. Baker, J. E. Stevens, and L. E. Gratton. The members follow a strict religious code.

Wauseon Fraternal Organizations

There are many old-established fraternal societies in Wauseon. The first to be founded was the Wauseon Lodge, No. 362, of the Inde-

pendent Order of Oddfellows. Its charter shows that it was formed on May 10, 1860, and that the charter members were A. J. Knapp, E. L. Barber, J. Reichert, N. Stern, and Sep. Gray. At present it has about fifty-five members, the present Noble Grand being C. M. Gibbs. The Rebekah Lodge, No. 658, was organized on November 22, 1907, with the following charter members:

Jennie Monroe, Laura Turney, Carrie Howe, Fanny Gates, Mary Spurgeon, Gertie Welling, Bertha Turney, Minnie Foster, Lillian Hallett, Emma Stevens, Hattie Snelinger, Anna Weber, Mrs. James Hodges, H. H. Hodges, Elsie Trimble, Clara Hawkins, Cora Weir, Phoebe Steele, E. A. Tann, M. M. Thomas, M. M. McCann, Ed. Foster, Joseph Perry, C. W. Hallett, E. D. Hawkins, Wm. H. Biddle, Nora Cammern, Lou McCann, Etta Tyner, J. Tyner, J. T. Steele, Geo. Weir, and L. S. Jameson.

Oddfellows Hall is a substantial brick building situated on the southwestern corner of North Fulton street and Elm.

Masonic Bodies. The Wauseon Lodge, No. 349, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, was organized on March 16, 1864. The charter members were:

Wm. H. Drew, Rollin Ford, Eugene S. Blake, W. A. Blake, James F. Hunt, Shipman Losure, Isaac Springer, Marcus H. Hayes, W. F. A. Altman, James R. Hibbard, John J. Doughty, Michael Handy, Avery Lamb, Oliver B. Verity, D. O. Livermore, A. H. Jordan, H. H. Beach, Jacob Bartlett, D. W. Hollister, H. M. Dudley, James J. Robinson, H. B. Bayes, J. W. Bayes, John S. Cately, John Spillane, Gustavus Brown, Samuel P. Grandy, Lawrence Forest, Jacob C. Hoffmire, Wm. W. Hunt, Wm. Fraker, Naaman Merrill, Elias Richardson, W. W. Bowers, and Avery Lamb.

Of these charter members, Wesley A. Blake, who lives on his farm about a mile or so west of Wauseon, was the only one living in 1914, when the lodge celebrated its fiftieth anniversary, and he was accorded signal honor on that occasion. "All through life Brother Blake has dedicated and consecrated his life to Masonic work and teaching of the order. He is a quiet unassuming citizen, loved and honored in Masonic circles, and respected and loved by those who know him." In securing a chapter of Royal Arch Masons for Wauseon "Brother Blake was again a prominent figure," stated a local paper, in 1918. "In the spring of 1868, he and two brothers went to Bryan, where the Royal Arch degree was conferred upon them. This made eleven Royal Arch Masons in the county, and they at once petitioned for the establishment of a chapter here. Their petition was granted, and in October, 1868, Wauseon Chapter, No. 111, Royal Arch Masons, was organized." The charter members were:

Wm. W. Hunt, Wm. H. Drew, Wesley A. Blake, H. Van Grandy, J. C. Carpenter, Benjamin Davis, Jr., William Sutton, Charles Hoffmire, Milo Rice, Anson M. Aldrich, and James Baker. The first officers were: Wm. W. Hunt, high priest; William Sutton, king; Charles Hoffmire, scribe.

The Wauseon Council, No. 68, of Royal and Select Masters was founded on March 10, 1879, and of that body also, Mr. Blake was a charter member. There were seven original members, namely: John A. Reed, W. A. Blake, W. W. Touvelle, N. S. Sargent, N. Merrill, J. S. Newcomer, and Walter Scott. J. A. Reed was elected illustrious master, and Wesley A. Blake, deputy master.

Mr. Blake was also prominent in the forming of the Fulton Chapter, No. 67, of the Order of Eastern Star, on October 29, 1896, the charter members of which were:

Clara Van Rensselaer, Rebecca J. Croninger, Consuela Smallman, Bertha (Blake) Hodges, Cora Gelzer, Pauline Stotzer, Samantha Biddle, Mary J. Reed, Frances Fuller, Geo. D. Newcomer, W. D. Van Rensselaer, W. A. Blake, Eliza Scott, Lydia Hanna, Lou Cornell, Ida Gingrich, Clara Spencer, Dorothy Ritzenthaler, Laura Biddle, Belinda Newcomer, Addie Jones, J. C. Fuller, Fitch J. Spencer, Harry Gingrich. Clara Van Rensselaer was elected worshipful matron, and Eliza Scott, assistant matron. Mr. Wesley A. Blake was honored by election to office of worshipful patron.

The Masonic Hall, corner of Fulton and Birch streets, was obtained somewhat unusually. When Smallman, the grocer, was erecting, or

FULTON STREET, WAUSEON, LOOKING SOUTH.

(Masonic and K. of P. buildings, first block on left; the Eager Hotel, now the site of Peoples Bank, first building on right, with Court House tower in distance.)

perhaps had erected, a brick two-story building, the Masonic lodges arranged to add two additional stories to the building. The ownership of the building is still so divided, and the upper stories admirably meet the needs of the Masonic bodies.

"Next door" to the Masonic Hall is the building of the Knights of Pythias, which in numbers is the strongest fraternal organization in Wauseon. The present strength is about 300, and their building, on Fulton street, is worth more than $6,000. Wauseon Lodge, No. 156, Knights of Pythias, had its inception in a meeting called for the purpose of initiating such a local branch of the order, which meeting was held on April 25, 1883, in the Oddfellows Hall, Wauseon. In consequence, charter was granted to the local body on May 24, 1883, said charter naming the original members, as follows:

L. W. Brown, F. G. Blackman, R. S. Blair, C. F. Baker, A. C.

Bloomer, C. E. Bennett, W. H. Backman, F. T. Blair, F. L. S. Darby, D. O. Fruth, Joseph Cammern, A. Gallagher, J. P. Gass, W. H. Handy, H. H. Ham, J. H. Hogeboom, Geo. M. Hawes, T. F. Ham, W. F. Hubble, C. B. Ham, C. Kimerer, E. D. Lane, J. B. Leu, J. F. Leu, J. H. Matthews, J. McCance, W. O. Mason, W. H. Nachtrieb, H. M. Pratt, F. J. Spencer, W. C. Scott, F. A. Stempel, T. J. Stephens, G. W Shick, M. Slusser, W. H. Sohn, G. Trapschuh, A. Turney, A. N. Van Arsdale, and H. H. Williams. The first officers were: W. H. Handy, chancellor commander; H. H. Ham, vice chancellor; T. F. Ham prelate; F. T. Blair, master of finance; D. O. Fruth, master of ex chequer; I. H. Mathews, keeper of records and seals; A. Gallagher, master at arms; C. F. Baker, inner guard; H. M. Pratt, outer guard; G. Trapschuh, representative. The present officers are: C. L. Goff, chancellor commander; C. L. Canfield, vice chancellor; C. E. Trory, prelate; H. H. Davenport, master of finance: Russell Goff, master at arms; W. E. Disbrow, keeper of records and seals; R. S. Campbell, master of finance; F. J. Spencer, master of exchequer; Eugene Buttermore, inner guard; Roscoe Marks, outer guard.

The associate lodge, the Pythian Sisters of Wauseon, Temple No. 337, was organized on June 8, 1907, and the charter bears date of June 8, 1907. The first officers were:

Lou Williams, most excellent chief of the temple; Fannie May Warvel excellent senior of the temple: Mary A. Files, past chief of the temple; Fanny Lingle, excellent junior of the temple; Lucy Mohr, manager of the temple; Kathryn Weir, mistress of records and correspondence; Leah Clark, mistress of finance; Ruth Larned, protector of man, James Hydorn, N. A. Lingle, Frank Olcott, James Partridge, Bay, most excellent chief of the temple: Lou Marger, excellent senior of the temple: I Davenport, excellent junior of the temple: Clara Myers, manager of the temple; Flor. Snyder, mistress of records and correspondence; Leah Clark, mistress of finance; Ruth Larned, protector of the temple; Mary Waldeck, guard.

The Buckeye Camp, No. 3902 (Wauseon) Modern Woodmen of America, was organized on May 22, 1896, with the following charter members:

J. T. Buchanan, James Burdick, M. J. Dangler, Dr. George Hartman, James Hydorn, N. A. Lingle, Franke Olcott, James Partridge, H. H. Peterson, Geo. Schletz, Geo. Selig, John Trondle, L. W. Wallace, Geo. J. Ziehrs, S. L. Valentine, B. F. Gilson, and S. B. Clark.

The growth of the camp has been very satisfactory, and at present has about 235 members. The present officers are J. J. Ladderman, consul; Harold Miley, adviser; G. A. Stratton, banker; Frank Bullinger, watchman; Harding Andrews, sentry; E. W. Bourquin, clerk; O. A. McConkey, Fred Dangler, and William Ford, managers.

The associate organization, the McIntire Camp, No. 1197, Royal Neighbors of America, was instituted on November 22, 1898, with the following named charter members:

Fannie Lingle, Nellie Ruppert, Emma Dangler, Laura A. Hydorn, Allie Fox, Lydia E. Yarnall, Gertrude Lingle, Minnie Hill, Carrie Howe, Barbara E. Selig, Minnie Petersen, Cora May Palmer, Lulu L. Clark, Della Eberly, Lizzie Olcott, Clara J. Zieler, Alice Hill, Maudie G.

Kelsey, Mary A. Weir, Kate Weir, Lovina Schletz, Mrs. J. P. Funkhouser, G. W. Hartman, Lida Gregory, and Stella Bayes.

The Modern Woodman lodge rooms are on N. Fulton street, *i. e.*, between Beech and Elm streets.

Wauseon Public Library

The present magnificent and useful public library in Wauseon is the culmination of the earnest but humble efforts of public-spirited and intellectually-inclined residents in Wauseon in the seventies. Its inception followed the Women's Temperance crusade conducted in Wauseon in the early seventies, the members establishing a reading room in the Cheadle block of Fulton street. It appears that:

"the reading room was established as an auxiliary to the temperance work, and was carried on for about a year. Quite a library of books and periodicals were donated for this purpose.....This reading room was in charge of a committee or board of directors, consisting of Mrs. E. L. Barber, Mrs. C. M. Keith, Mrs. Dr. Holloway, Mrs. Syd. Shaffer, and Mrs. Libbie Lyon. After continuing for about a year, it was decided to discontinue the reading room, and the question arose as to the disposition of the books and property. These ladies then decided to make it the nucleus for the founding of a public library, and a call was issued by them to the people of the town, to secure their co-operation in the work. The first call issued.....produced no result.....A second call was likewise fruitless, but at the third meeting, people became interested enough to attend, and an organization was effected. All the books and property of the reading room, were turned over to the Library Association."

The meeting at which the organization was effected was held in the Disciples Church, on March 16, 1875, and among the prominent early workers for the success of the Library Association were D. W. H. Howard, M. T. Palmer, Miss Jennie Gray, Zina Eager, Mrs. H. T. Brigham, Charles Greenough, Mace Britton, Warren Williams, Mrs. Geo. Howe, and Mrs. W. C. Kelley.

During the early years of its existence, the library was maintained by the sale of membership tickets, the membership fee being $3.00 yearly, later reduced to $1.00 a year. This means of revenue was supplanted by entertainments, socials, and the like, but to meet the ever-growing expenses of the association meant constant tax upon the enterprise, initiative, and resourcefulness of its promoters. Finally, its maintenance was assumed by the Board of Education of Wauseon, and a tax of one mill for library purposes was exacted, in 1904, in which year the library owned 2,200 volumes, in addition to periodical unbound literature.

The library has changed its location many times since it was first established, one writer, in 1905, stating: "The wanderings of the library have been as devious as the wanderings of Aeneas. The first home of the library was in the rooms of what is now the Eager House, with Miss Eva Boughton as librarian. It was next moved to the Swartz House, again removed to a room now occupied by Dr. Coles, as a dentist room, over F. R. Smallman's grocery store. From here to the rooms over Spencer and Stuemple's dry goods establishment. When it was moved from there to the City Hall, it was taken charge of by Miss Hunt,

the present librarian. Its present location is the Board of Electors Room, in the Court House."

Several attempts were made early in the new century to interest Mr. Andrew Carnegie in the project of improving the library facilities of Wauseon, but it was not until November 17, 1903, that Prof. C. J. Biery received a response from the great philanthropist. The communication followed the general plan adopted by Mr. Carnegie and his advisers, in donating library buildings to municipalities of the United States, and the proposal to Wauseon brought about the undertaking by the village council to properly maintain the library. So the present library building, on Elm street, was built at a cost to Mr. Carnegie of $7,500. It is a two-story structure of pressed brick, and is stone-faced, the building being of a pleasing colonial design.

Miss Mary S. Hunt will ever be remembered for her labors in behalf of the library. For twenty years, or more she was secretary and librarian. And Carl Greenleaf probably did more for the library than any other man. Howard Sohn also did very creditable work as librarian, at a small, wholly inadequate salary; and the bequest by Mrs. Kelley, in 1892, will not be forgotten.

Wauseon Water Works System

It seems rather singular that, in a territory which, originally, had water in abundance, there should come a time when its advancement threatened to be checked, who knows how seriously, by a poor water supply for domestic purposes, and a totally inadequate supply for industrial purposes. Much money has been spent during the last twenty-five years in endeavoring to secure sufficient water for present and prospective uses, and apparently it will be necessary to expend much more, for latterly a serious shortage has made it necessary to pump water from the "big ditch",—open surface water—into the wells; and in consequence, many residents have had to resort to the pumping by hand from private and community wells in the village, in order to supply their personal needs of water for drinking. For fifty or sixty years, Wauseon has had a poor water supply. In June, 1870, the citizens "prayed" for the construction of a reservoir in Barber and Merrill's addition; and an artesian well was in that year drilled in Fulton street, at the junction with Leggett street. H. I. Osborne was, on November 11, 1870, paid $125, "for help in drilling" that well. Other wells were sunk in the village, some by private landowners, for their personal needs, and some by the corporation. In 1896, it seemed that the deficiency would soon be remedied. On July 15, 1896, plans were ordered to be drafted, and specification "for drilling a sufficient number of wells, to supply 500,000 gallons of water daily" and on August 12, 1896, the bid of the Wagoner Water Supply Company, of $2,500, "for the construction of wells" was accepted. At the same meeting the waterworks trustees entered into a contract with B. J. Ashley, civil engineer, to draft plans and specification, and superintend the construction of "a complete system of water works in the village of Wauseon." In consequence, plans and specification "for a complete system of water works" were, on June 10, 1897, presented to the council, and accepted by that body, which decided to advertise their needs forthwith. Action

came quickly, and on July 14, 1897, the proposal of C. and T. Inglehart, of Chicago, to construct the waterworks system, in accordance with the plans and specification, for the sum of $18,998, was stated to have been the lowest received, and the contract was awarded to that firm, on August 6, 1897. Work was commenced soon afterwards. William H. Hubble, who was a member of the Wauseon Water Board for fifteen years, made the following statement, in March, 1919:

"For several years prior to 1896, when the plant was built, I had been studying how to give Wauseon better fire protection, and to give to all the citizens the conveniences and privileges that come from a water works system. I had the late John Q. Files draw up a resolution, asking the village council to appropriate a small amount of money to make an investigation, as to a supply of water for the town. Later, I had him prepare a petition, submitting to the voters of Wauseon the

THE WAUSEON PLANT OF THE VAN CAMP PACKING CO.

question of whether, or not, bonds should be issued to the amount of $25,000, for the purpose of building a water works system. Dr. Myers and C. B. Lyon circulated the petition and the question carried in the election.

"We awarded contracts for the drilling of wells which would furnish 500,000 gallons daily. Many test holes were sunk, and a large amount of experimenting was done before we could find the amount of water desired. The wells were submitted to a 48-hour test and met the requirement, but the water head was lowered some thirty feet..... At the end of the first year's pumping, the water head in the wells had gone down a number of feet, and at the end of the second year it was still lower. This alarmed me, and I went to Dayton to consult the men who drilled the wells, and their answer was that we were pumping out the water faster than it could feed to the wells, and that if new terri-

tory could not be reached, it would only be a matter of time before other sources of supply would have to be found."

The position has not materially changed since. A new source has not yet been found, although the council is optimistic, having more than one plan now under consideration. When the wells were first constructed, the water stood within sixteen feet of the ground surface; its level is now about 160 feet below the surface. Altogether, bonds "have been issued for the construction and improvement of the plant, to the amount of $81,000," and of that amount $60,000 remained unpaid in 1919. It is serious, and more regrettable when one realizes that the natural industrial advancement of Wauseon is in a measure, crippled by the deficiency.

THE SUPERIOR IRON WORKS, WAUSEON.

INDUSTRIAL WAUSEON

Industrially, Wauseon is hampered by an insufficiency of water. When an adequate supply is available for industrial purposes, the town may change materially in class and character. At present it may be truthfully described as a small "city of homes." It may at some time in the future become a large "city of belching chimneys and throbbing machinery." Practically the only smoke stacks that belch forth industrial waste at present are those of the evaporated milk plant and the iron works. The former plant, that of the Van Camp Packing Company, is one of the most important factors to the farmers within its sphere of trading, and its establishment, together with that of the Helvetia Company at Delta, and the plant of the National Dairy Company at Morenci, just over the county line, has materially changed farming methods and prospects throughout Fulton County during the

last decade or so. The Van Camp Packing Company has more than 1,400 dairymen on the books of the Wauseon plant, these farmers bringing their milk daily to the plant, and drawing substantial monthly cheques. About two-thirds of the intake at the Van Camp plant at Wauseon is the product of Fulton County farms. The other smoke-stacked plant is that of the Superior Iron and Manufacturing Company, situated near the Wabash Railway station; it finds employment for about seventy-five men, and is a well-managed industrial concern. The milling industry, that of Lyon, Clement and Greenleaf, has been elsewhere noted in this chapter. It is of course one of the historic early institutions of Wauseon, and has always been one of the most important. At the time of the death of Chas. C. Greenleaf, one of its part-owners, the plant was described thus:

"He (Mr. Greenleaf) gave this county a flourishing mill whose capacity is equal to that of any in the state, only one having as large an output as the one here. He made the grain market not only of this but of adjoining counties. The one mill here ground more wheat in a year than the entire county produced in the same time."

Apart from these three plants, industrial Wauseon represents just the mechanical service developed by the every-day needs of a community of its size, and sphere of influence. But with the example of Toledo so near, and so evident, to the people of Wauseon, who can reasonably and nearly estimate the probable growth of the county seat of Fulton County during the next few decades? It probably will go forward more rapidly than it has during the last few.

Population

The population of Wauseon in 1854 was, one authority states, fifteen; what it was in 1860 is not known to present compiler, but Brown's "Gazetteer," before referred to in this chapter, states that the population in 1866 was 1,500. In 1870, the federal census figures were 1,474; in 1880, 1,906; in 1890, 2,060; in 1900, 2,148; in 1910, 2,650; and in 1920 the "preliminary announcement of population" issued, in advance of the verified figures, by the Bureau of the Census, credits Wauseon with 3,035 residents. Wauseon has maintained its proportionate decadal advancement, whereas Delta has fallen back, and has now only 1,543 residents.

Transportation Facilities

Wauseon has three steam railway systems passing through it, and one electrified railway, so that, in case industrial development begins in earnest, it will be possible to readily obtain railroad facilities to cope with such advancement. An article written in 1906, on "Wauseon, a railroad centre," gives a good review of the somewhat encouraging position of Wauseon, in this respect, describing Wauseon as "where the railways meet." In part, the article stated:

"Few cities of its size in the state have a more metropolitan citizenship, or appearance. The twentieth century has started with fine prospects for Fulton County, more particularly in Wauseon, the county seat, in a material sense. In 1901, the Wabash Railroad built a branch from

Montpelier to Toledo, passing through Wauseon, and other important towns. In 1903 an electric railway, the Toledo and Indiana Electric railway was built, service from Wauseon beginning April 1, 1903. In 1905 it was extended west to Bryan, and by this line Swanton, Delta, Wauseon, Pettisville, Archbold are each given the advantages of an electric road.....Speaking of railroads, we must not overlook the fact that Wauseon is located on the main line of the great L. S. & M. S. Railroad (New York Central).....We have still another railway, now known as the Detroit, Toledo and Ironton, which gives us a direct line north and south from Detroit, Michigan, to Cincinnati, O.: thus giving to Wauseon three great steam railway systems and an electric road .....Here capital finds a profitable field for investment."

Wauseon (N. Y. Central) Station.

Hotels

Wauseon's first hotel, the Estelle House, has already been referred to. Its first proprietors, the Livermore Brothers, had much part in early Wauseon affairs. The Estelle Hotel was the leading hotel of the county for many years, but not always under that name. It later became the Clinton House, and still later the Sherman House, passing into the ownership of the Brothers Cornell. It was destroyed by fire in 1872.

The next hotel was the Wauseon House, which presumably was in existence in the 'sixties, and certainly in the early 'seventies, standing on Depot street, just east of the City Hall. Its popular landlord for many years was George M. Hawes, who made it a good commercial house. The reputation it gained then has continued until the present, for its site was eventually taken by the Hotel Blair, which for more than a generation has been the leading hotel and commercial house of the county seat. Mr. Crawford Blair bought the old Wauseon House from Jake Ash, and conducted it for four years—until it was destroyed by fire. He then built the present Hotel Blair, a substantial brick

Birdseye View of Wauseon, 1881.

building, harmonizing with the adjoining City Hall. He remained in the Hotel Blair for nineteen years, selling it a few years ago to M. Dinerberger, of Buffalo, who, in June, 1920, transferred ownership and occupation to Tony H. Dolf, of an old Wauseon family, but for many years resident in Oklahoma, where he has had the managerial responsibilty of first-class hotels.

The Hotel Blair is the only Wauseon hotel at present, but there have been several other hotels. The most notable, perhaps, was the Eager House, a large three-story brick building, which was built in 1875 at the corner of Fulton and Commercial streets, where now stands the Peoples Bank building, and where originally stood the first Eager House, a frame building erected by, or for, Colonel Hayes, for mercantile purposes, Zina Eager becoming his partner. In 1868 was built the Clinton House, on the corner of Clinton and Depot streets, a frame house. Its site is now occupied by the City Hall. The Clinton House was built by J. C. French, but was later sold to J. F. Baumgartner, who moved the hotel when its site was needed for the City Hall. In front of the Clinton House, according to James Hogeboom, "was a swamp, where the boys on the Fourth of July used to catch bullhead." He added: "I presume the present generation will scarcely believe this statement, but if they will ask Mr. Baumgartner, he can tell them all about it. There has been six or seven feet of fill made in this low ground, and that is why things present such a different appearance now, as to what they were then."

There have been other hotels; there was a Fountain City Hotel, near the courthouse, almost forty years ago; and at about that time the Farmers' Hotel was opened on North Fulton street, near Oak street.

There have, of course, been innumerable saloons, unfortunately, that have served no good purpose. Residential hotels are an essential to the proper commercial intercourse between communities, but the drinking saloon has always been a detriment. They are now no more, having been swept away, perhaps temporarily, perhaps for all time, by the national prohibition measures enacted while the nation was in the throes of the greatest war of all times.

Mayoral Succession

Earlier in this chapter the names have been stated of those citizens who presided over the administrative affairs of the incorporated village of Wauseon during the early years, to 1870. From that year, many public-spirited men have given creditable service as mayor, and all must have been unselfish in service, for the office has always been practically an honorary one. The list is as follows:

Sydenham Snyder was mayor in 1871; Naaman Merrill in 1872-73; W. C. Kelley, from 1874 to 1877; Joel Brigham during the next three years; Jas. S. Brailey in 1881; L. M. Murphy, from 1882 to 1885; E. S. Blake from 1886 to 1894; Fred J. Bollinger, in 1895; John C. Rorick in 1896; E. S. Blake again from 1897 to 1899; J. C. Palmer, in 1900 and 1901; E. H. Harrison, in 1902; A. P. Biddle in 1903-04-05; J. S. Brailey, from 1906 to 1908; C. A. Cole, in 1909; G. B. Heise, in 1910-11; W. C. Fink, 1912-13; R. Hoy, from 1914 to 1917; and Chas. M. Bulger, since 1918.

The present village administration is constituted as follows: Chas. M. Bulger, mayor; L. H. Devo, treasurer; James C. King, clerk; Geo. J. Oakley, H. J. Bachman, D. E. Barkdull, H. H. Davenport, H. H. Hough, and H J. Schlatter, members of council; F. R. Harper, G. V. Soule, and F. J. Spencer, board of trustees of public affairs. J. C. Paxson is city solicitor, and Robert Sweeney, marshal.

Some of the men who carried on the work of the founders of Wauseon were very capable administrators. Some became prominent in the county administration, and some, indeed, in state affairs. Michael Handy was one of the most capable of the pioneer members of the Fulton County Legal Bar, and in 1879 was admitted to practice at the bar of the District Court of the United States. His name appears among the elected mayors of Wauseon, but he did not serve, the judges of election, upon a review being made, deciding that no one had been legally elected. Mr. Handy was not a candidate at the second election, which was in 1874, his opponent being William C. Kelley, who, at the second polling, was elected. He also was a prominent attorney, and was mayor of Wauseon for four years. Regarding the irregular election, and that which followed, J. W. Roseborough, who probably was the most ardent and forceful prohibitionist in the county in his active days, wrote:

"They have been having an unusually lively time in the election of their local officers in Wauseon. At the first election, Mr. Handy was declared elected mayor of the village. His competitor, however, contested the election, and the judges declared that no one was legally elected. A new election was ordered. On the 11th inst., a caucus was held, and a candidate for mayor nominated in the name of the Republican party. The temperance men nominated a man for the same office. The election came off on the 12th, and resulted in the election of the anti-temperance.....candidate.....The Whiskey element rallied to a man to this side.....(and) the result was celebrated by a public libation of several kegs of beer, offered, too,.....in the public street, opposite the only concern in the village where liquor is sold."

Michael Handy lived until March, 1886, death coming then quickly, in an apoplectic seizure. He was then seventy-three years old, and had lived a useful public-spirited life. In the last year or two of his life he was nearly blind, yet his cheeriness of disposition remained to the end. He was "a genial kindly man, and an estimable citizen." William C. Kelley died of cancer of the throat, and was buried in Wauseon Cemetery. He came to Wauseon in 1864, and held no public office excepting that of mayor, but he had an extensive law practice. He served as a commissioned officer through part of the Civil War.

James S. Brailey died of apoplexy in 1916, in Toledo. "For over a quarter of a century Mr. Brailey had been active in state and district politics." He was the son of General James S. Brailey. He, James S., Jr., had a splendid Civil War record, and, after he returned to civil life, came to Wauseon, and interested himself in real estate and town planning. He was postmaster of Wauseon at one time, and was three times elected mayor.

Linne M. Murphy was an attorney, and took up residence in Wauseon in 1880. He saw some service during the Civil War, although at its termination he was not yet sixteen years old. On his mother's side he came from a famous family of Indian fighters, one of whom once, to

escape from pursuing Indians, is supposed to have leaped on horseback from the summit of a cliff, 150 feet high, on the eastern side of the Ohio River, into the stream below, escaping unharmed.

Eugene Stephenson Blake, who died in 1910, served many terms as mayor, and was one of the leading merchants of the place, partner in the firm of Brigham, Springer and Company, gaining that position by faithful work as a clerk. His was a meritorious life, lived "on a high moral plane."

Fred J. Bollinger was barely twenty-one years old when he was elected mayor of Wauseon. He was very popular, and was the son of the editor-owner of the Democratic Expositor, of Wauseon. He died in Toledo when about thirty-eight years old.

John C. Rorick is another of the capable members of a prominent Fulton county family. He was prominent in state administration; was senator, and for many years member of the State Board of Equalization. At one time he owned the Sherman House of Wauseon, and was a successful inventor.

A Shady Spot.

John C. Palmer was the second Democrat to succeed in becoming mayor of Wauseon. He was in business with his father, Myron T. Palmer, a successful contractor, in Wauseon. The latter died in 1903, aged sixty-two years. He was esteemed as a veteran of the Civil War. Myron T. Palmer's war service record covering a longer period than that of any other member of the Losure Post of G. A. R. He held several offices of public trust, and at one time was Chief Deputy for Fulton county of the Deputy State Supervisiors of Elections of Ohio.

Eugene H. Harrison was a most enterprising merchant of Wauseon. He was born in a log house near Wauseon in 1853, and died in 1913. In addition to one term as mayor, he served for two terms as township treasurer, and three terms as president and secretary of the Board of Public Affairs, and he worked earnestly for the advancement of Wauseon.

Hon. A. P. Biddle died in 1911. He was an able attorney, and for some years a justice of the peace.

George B. Heise was originally a school teacher, later being admitted to the Fulton county legal bar, and still later entering into mercantile trading in Wauseon.

Before closing the chapter reference must be made to some other prominent and now deceased residents of Wauseon.

Colonel J. H. Brigham, who rose to the distinction of the assistant secretaryship of the United States Department of Agriculture, under President McKinley, was one of the ablest of Fulton county's sons. He was with the President on the day previous to that upon which McKinley was assassinated, and both before and after the latter's death, Colonel Brigham was prominent in federal circles. Wauseon shared with Delta the right to claim him as a resident, and he was necessarily much in evidence in Wauseon, the county seat. He served through the Civil War; was sheriff of Fulton county in 1868, and served the county in that office for three terms. He became state senator in 1881. Always at heart a farmer, Colonel Brigham actively entered into the development of the Grange movement, and for ten years was master of the state grange. In 1888, he was elected master of the national grange, and that position he held until appointed Assistant Secretary of Agriculture by President McKinley. He died in 1904. In physique, he was a giant, being 6 feet 6 inches in height. His mental calibre was in proportion, and his broad shoulders typified his broadness of vision, and stability of purpose.

John Q. Riddle was one of the prominent early merchants, but he went to Cleveland to live in 1884, and there acquired much wealth in business. He died in Cleveland in 1912.

Christ Domitio, for almost fifty years a tailor and clothier in Wauseon, died in 1912, in Toledo, in which city he had taken up residence four years earlier. He lost heavily when the Bank of Wauseon failed.

Myron Whitehorne was, with his brother J. C., in business in Wauseon from 1865 almost until his death in 1901. He was an honored Civil War soldier.

George Haumesser was for twenty-five years in business, as a hay and corn and fodder dealer, in Wauseon; was postmaster of the village under President Cleveland, and "became one of the best-liked men of the town." He died in 1916.

Henry Dolf, who died in 1919, lived in Wauseon for more than fifty years, and for thirty years was one of the town's successful business men. He was in partnership with Frank Haumesser for many years.

Joseph Mattison, for fifty-two years a resident and business man in Wauseon, died in September, 1919. He held a commission in E. L. Hayes' regiment, and after the war came to Wauseon.

Hiram L. Moseley and his wife were separated by death for only eighteen days, both dying in April, 1919, after fifty-one years of residence in Wauseon. Hiram L. Moseley was in business for many years, and took part in administrative affairs of the county also. For twelve years he was a county school examiner; served two terms as county treasurer; and for a while was probate judge. He was an ardent Baptist.

Daniel Ritzenthaler, who died in 1917, was perhaps one of the best known business men of Wauseon for very many years. For fifty-four years he conducted a shoe store in the village, and for some years was councilman.

Henry Holmes Williams was for fifty years part of the business life of Wauseon. He and his associates gave Wauseon its first electric light system. He was a Civil War veteran, and was an octogenarian in the year of his death, 1918.

Captain William F. Williams, son of Elisha, died in 1914, respected and mourned by many of the older residents of Wauseon, especially by his Civil War comrades.

William H. Sohn lived in Wauseon from 1877 until he died in 1916, and during that time was in business. He was a man of versatility; learned the trade of sculptor and monumental mason, in which business he engaged for some years, then entering store business as a furniture dealer, later he was an undertaker. A useful hobby made of him quite a creditable architect, knowledge of which brought him into leading place in many projected public improvements in Wauseon. His wife, Harriet Brigham Sohn, was also prominent in social and community work in Wauseon, in connection with the many societies to which she belonged.

Clarence E. Brigham, son of Joel, and senior member of the firm of Brigham, Guilford and Company, was city treasurer for some years, and until his death was prominent in fraternal societies. For more than thirty years he was identified with leading business in the county seat.

Albert Deyo had much to do with, and in, Wauseon during his public life; he was clerk of Fulton county from 1872 until 1878; was representative for two terms; and in 1900 came to live in Wauseon. He died in 1912.

Albert S. Bloomer resided in Wauseon for forty-nine years; and after a meritorious war service took much part in civil affairs. He was county recorder for seven years; for sixteen years was a justice of the peace; and for a number of years was village clerk. He died in 1913.

C. E. Guilford, who died in 1906, aged forty-eight years, was active in public as well as in business affairs. He was township clerk for some years; was a member of the Wauseon Board of Education; was postmaster in Wauseon at one time; and lastly, but not least, was elected county treasurer. He "was a man of strong convictions."

J. S. Newcomer, of the pioneer Wauseon family, was for nearly forty years in business in Wauseon, for the greater part of the time as a druggist.

This brief review by no means exhausts the list of worthy residents of Wauseon. Many will have extensive reference in the second volume of this work, while some will be referred to in other chapters. Taken as a whole, the people of Wauseon are of a prosperous, capable, clean-living class; steady and consistent in their general life, and, mostly, earnest church members. Wauseon's future should be bright.

Clinton Township Officials

And now, to close the Clinton Township chapter. It is regrettable that the most important of the township official records are not avail-

able. As to the township trustees, it is not possible to give a complete list. Two of the trustees in 1838 were Thomas Bayes and Jonathan Barnes. From that year until 1867 the record is missing, but the trustees in 1867 were Abram Falconer, James Cornell, and Reason Campbell. Another gap of thirteen years must be recorded, but from 1880 until the present the record is complete. Joel Brigham was trustee from 1880 to 1883; Jesse Pocock for the same years; Ebenezer Bradley, in 1880 and 1881; W. W. Pike, in 1882; Allen Shadle, 1884-86; Thomas Miley, 1884-86; Tilden Williams, 1884 to 1890; Eugene S. Blake, 1885 to 1891, also in 1893 and 1896; R. W. Scott, in 1887; S. L. Foncannon, in 1888 to 1892; William H. Campbell, 1891 to 1896; W. C. Barnes, 1892; Isaac Springer, 1894 and 1895; S. B. McLain, 1893 to 1898, and again from 1902 to 1905; G. D. Newcomer, 1897 to 1901; M. A. Emmons, 1897 to 1900; Cal Williams, 1899 to 1901; R. H. Dunham, 1901 to 1904; J. F. Campbell, 1902 to 1907; O. L. Smith, 1905 to 1911; R. W. Scott, 1906 to 1911; C. B. Hine, 1908 to 1911. The trustees in the years 1912-13-14 and 15 were F. M. Newcomer, J. C. Miley, and P. Garmon; those for 1916 to 1919 were R. S. Blair, J. D. Snyder, and Val Snyder; while the present trustees are N. W. McConkey, R. E. Bonar, and Clarence Rychener. Township clerk for many years has been J. F. Dimke.

Population

The early statistics cannot be given, but the Federal Census Bureau figures for Clinton Township from 1870 are: 1870, 3,235; 1880, 3,719; 1890, 3,898; 1900, 3,934; 1910, 4,383; and 1920, 4,778. These figures are inclusive of Wauseon population, and the 1920 figures are subject to correction, the final announcement not yet having been made by the Bureau of the Census.

CHAPTER XII

HISTORY OF CHESTERFIELD TOWNSHIP

Chesterfield Township was one of the northern townships organized on June 4, 1837, after the settlement of the territorial dispute which almost plunged the states of Michigan and Ohio into war, as has been elsewhere described in this volume. It is bounded on the north by the State of Michigan; on the east by Royalton Township; on the south by Dover Township; and on the west by Gorham. Oak Shade, Denson and Inlet are what might be termed communities within its borders, but not one of these places is dignified by separate classification, as a village, in official statistics, and the total population of the township in 1910 was 1,010. While the dispute between the states of Ohio and Michigan proceeded, the lands were, in the winter of 1834, placed under the township jurisdiction of Seneca, Michigan, and so remained until the last month of 1836, when by the Harris line it became a part of Ohio, and lost the name of Seneca, and was unorganized territory until 1837, when it was given the name of Chesterfield, in honor of Chesterfield Clemons, the first white man to settle within its borders. He settled on the west part of section 14 on October 6, 1834, and until he had built a log cabin he and his family lived in the emigrant wagon, in which they had come from Paynesville, Ohio. His daughter, who later became the wife of John Butler, remembered "well the day that she and her parents in an emigrant wagon stopped in the woods where her father said that he had bought a farm.... There was not a stick of timber cut on the place, neither was there any kind of a building.... The family lived in this wagon until a log house could be built." And more than a year passed before they again saw a white face not of their own household. They might have been isolated for much longer had not an Indian made a chance remark at a nearby trading post. Alanson Briggs, an Indian trader, came into Chesterfield Township in the fall of 1834, and bought a large tract of land from the government. He built a house on what was later known as the J. H. Turner farm in Chesterfield Township. It was in section 12. Having built his house Alanson Briggs returned to Cleveland. In the early spring of 1835, he started from Cleveland with his family and belongings. What might almost be called with his belongings was a bound boy, eleven years old, by name John Butler, son of Asa H. Butler, who had bound the boy to Alanson Briggs a year or so earlier. The boy was alert and active, and ultimately became one of the most respected pioneers of Fulton County. Describing his coming to, and early life in, Chesterfield Township, John Butler, "Uncle John," as he was familiarly known in the county later in life, said:

"The trip was made overland, and it gave me my first experience of pioneer life. Mr. Briggs was very wealthy and his object in coming here was to establish an Indian trading post. He brought with

him a large stock of merchandise, and so it was for those days, although it would make a small showing by the side of the stock carried by some of the stores of the county today. I do not know exactly how long we were making that trip, only that it took weeks. In crossing the black swamp we did not travel more than four or five miles in a day. Our teams would frequently get stalled, and we would have to find a settler to pull us out. In addition to bringing a large stock of merchandise, Mr. Briggs brought a lot of cattle with him and many and many a night have I roamed through the woods look-

"UNTIL HE HAD BUILT A LOG CABIN, HE AND HIS FAMILY LIVED IN AN EMIGRANT WAGON."

ing for the cows. I was then 'John, the chore boy', and as you can well imagine, there was plenty for a boy of my age to do.

"Mr. Briggs was a very busy man, and sometimes would be away from home for weeks at a time, and during his absence the care of the store fell upon me. Our only customers were the Indians, and in a short time I could talk the Indian language as readily as I could the English. The only playmates I had for nearly a year were the little Indian boys, and our chief pastime was shooting at a mark. As I grew older, I acted as Indian interpreter on many occasions, and when the government transferred the Indians to the West, I helped the government agents in closing up their contracts with the Indians, and getting them together for transportation.

"When I came here we knew of no white person living in the country; nor did I see a white person until in the fall of the same year.. ....One October day, some Indians came into the store and told Mr. Briggs that they had seen a white man. Owning a large amount of land, Mr. Briggs was anxious to sell to any speculator, or settler who was looking for an investment or home, and so he had me find out from the Indians what the white man was doing. But I was unable to make them understand.....A few days later Chief Winameg accompanied by one or two of the Indians who had told us of the white man came to the store. The Chief had visited the store many times and had learned a few English words, but when I asked him if the white man was a trader, or not, he shook his head, and said: 'White man build wigwam'. I knew then that it was a settler, and that he was building himself a home. I asked the chief to tell me where I could find him. To answer this question seemed to bother him. He walked away and sat on a stump, and seemed to be lost in thought. In a little while he came up to me, and taking me by the arm led me to a section corner stone, which the government surveyors had planted a few years before. Pointing at the stone, and then in a certain direction, he made a certain number of motions with his arm, then stopped, and pointing in another direction, he again pointed at the stone, made two motions with his arm and said: 'There, white man'. We knew that each motion of the chief's arm meant a mile, and the next day Mr. Briggs and I started out to find our neighbors. We followed the courses given us by the Indian, and as we came to the end of the last mile, as marked by the Indian, we looked off to our right, and saw a settlement. We received a hearty welcome into this home, for we were the first white people that they had seen in over a year."

That was how it happened that Chesterfield Clemons and his family saw a "paleface", after a year spent in the territory of the Indians, who at the best were uncertain neighbors. As to how it happened that settlers could be in almost adjoining sections, and for a year be unaware of each other's proximity, was explained by John Butler. He said:

"You may think it strange that living so near as that, we should not have known of the Clemons' settlement long before we did, or they of our Indian trading post, until we found their settlement that pleasant October day.....When you stop to think that, with the exception of the Old Plank Road, there was not another road in the north part of the county, and that the travellers going through the country followed only the well-known Indian trails, it is not in the least surprising. When Chesterfield Clemons came to this county, he came in over the Rice Trail, which led from the Maumee, over the river to Hillsdale, Michigan, whilst Mr. Briggs came in over the Territorial Road from Toledo. His store was on what is now (1907) the J. H. Turner Farm, east of Morenci, on the old Territorial Road, and as he brought his goods from the East he had no occasion to leave this well-known route. Mr. Clemons came here to make a home out of the wilderness. He brought a large number of cattle with him, and in a few years had quite a respectable farm."

Chesterfield Clemons was born in New York state in 1797; and died in Chesterfield Township, Fulton county, in 1842. In the eight years of his residence there he had wrought a wonderful change in the section upon which he had settled, and at his death left his wife, Fannie Downing, and their six daughters, comparatively well circumstanced. The widow subsequently married Samuel Gillis, a veteran of the War of 1812, and an early settler in Chesterfield Township. He was the first probate judge of Fulton county, and filled other county and township offices.

It appears to have been generally acknowledged by the early settlers of that township that Chesterfield Clemons was the first to come into it. Alanson Briggs was in the township probably earlier in 1834, for he built a house and returned to Cleveland again in the fall. But his year of settling must be put as 1835, for it was in the spring of that year that he brought his family and belongings from Cleveland, and took up permanent residence on section 12. (Micksell's "History of Fulton County" gives it as section 5.) Still, at least two other pioneers had settled in Chesterfield Township in the fall of 1834, Daniel Parsons, and George P. Clark.

Daniel and Esperance Parsons, with their daughter Harriet, who later married David Willets, came from Maine.

George P. Clark and his wife Elizabeth were both natives of Rhode Island; they settled upon section 23, but some years later went into Michigan to live.

Alanson Briggs had originally intended to conduct a trading post, expecting that his only customers would be the Indians of the neighborhood. But, as the white settlers came in increasing numbers during the next few years, Briggs found that he could do quite a respectable store business with the immigrants. So that his Indian trading post may be considered to have been the first store in Chesterfield Township. It might also be considered to have been the first hotel also, for Alanson Briggs afforded accommodation to passing immigrants. The settlers had not only to guard against the dangers of the forest, with its wolves and other wild animals and poisonous snakes, they had always to be on the alert because of the unreliable temperament of the Indians, who, while generally peaceable were apt to get beyond control, in which event they would recognize no law or order, save their primitive understanding of justice, and their natural rights. The encroachment of white men in their hunting grounds was a constant irritant to the Indians, and it would not have been surprising had the history of Fulton county recorded much more friction between the settlers and the Indians than did actually occur. "Uncle John" Butler, in 1907, put into print his remembrance of one thrilling experience he went through, in the store of Mr. Briggs, in 1836. His narrative began:

"We had been there for a year or two when two of the wildest Indians of the tribe came to the store and wanted to buy some whisky. Every storekeeper in those days had a barrel or two of liquor, but Mr. Briggs, who was very good to the Indians, was very careful how much he let them have at a time. On this occasion it happened that he was at home when they came for their liquor. The Indians stayed at the store nearly all afternoon, smoking and chewing tobacco, telling of

their hunting experiences, and now and then buying a drink of whisky; so that at supper time they were feeling pretty good, as we would express it today, and were getting pretty boisterous. As Mr. Briggs started to go into the kitchen for his supper they demanded more liquor, which he refused to give them. He told me to lock the door to the room where the whisky was kept, and went on to his supper. The two Indians left the store, and in a few minutes they returned and came into the kitchen, where we were eating supper. Each Indian took Mr. Briggs by an arm and led him into the store, and commanded him to give them more liquor. As they were leading him toward the room where the liquor was kept, he broke loose from them, and grabbing them by the throats hurled them across the room with terrific force. Briggs was a powerful man, standing six feet and seven inches in his stocking feet, and when they were once in his grasp there was no getting away. I expected he would break their necks before he let go of them. The two Indians were glad to leave the store, when Briggs got through with them, and they went limping down the trail through the woods.

"But this was not the end of our trouble. The next day the two Indians whom Briggs had thrown from the store accompanied by six warriors, returned and demanded to see Mr. Briggs. They had their war paint on, and carried their tomahawks and scalping knives. I knew it meant trouble and that likely it would be the last day for us, and of the little Indian trading post. As Mr. Briggs came into the store one of them, who seemed to take the place of the chief, raised his tomahawk, and pointed to the two Indians who had been thrown out the night before. It seemed as if my heart would stop beating, as I waited for him to strike the expected blow. Briggs stood unmoved, and not even his voice faltered, as he told the Indian how the two had tried to overpower him the night before. As Briggs could not talk the Indian language, and as the big Indian could not understand English very well, he asked me to tell them all about it. As I began to speak the Indian tongue the other warriors drew around me and listened to the story. I told them every detail of the fight, just as I had seen it, realizing that our lives depended upon the truthfulness of my story, and knowing that the Indians are the quickest people in the world to detect a falsehood, and the surest people to mete out punishment for false swearing. They heard my story all through without interrupting me, and when I had finished, the warriors walked over to the Indians, whose necks were black and blue from the grip Briggs had given them, and asked them if my story was true. When they said it was, the warriors left the store, without saying another word. I knew that we had escaped a terrible punishment and that the Indians had a sense of justice. Mr. Briggs had always been very good and kind to the Indians, and it was this kindness that had brought the warriors to see him, before burning his store and killing him and his family."

Alanson Briggs was, in the early years of the settlement of Fulton County, one of the leaders among the settlers. The first election in Chesterfield Township was held in his house, and he was colonel of the state militia for many years and was the commanding officer when the militia mustered for the last time, at Etna, Pike Township, in

1843. His hotel appears to have been located upon the premises later owned by Eleazer Clark. Alanson Briggs died in 1879, many years after the death of his wife Lucinda.

John S. Butler, son of Asa H. and Sarah (Daggett) Butler, who settled in Gorham Township in 1835, was of course one of the pioneer settlers of Chesterfield, coming as has been before narrated, with Alanson Briggs, in his boyhood. For several years he carried the mails on the route from Toledo to Lima, Indiana, traveling the route of ninety miles twice weekly, while still in his early teens. Reference has elsewhere herein been made to some of his adventures along the Indian trails through the dense forest during his post-boy days. Eventually, he married Lovina, daughter of Chesterfield Clemons, and was a successful farmer, settling on section 32.

Harlow Butler arrived from New York state in 1835, and took claim to part of section 28. He returned to his family in the fall, and in 1836 brought them to Ohio, and settled on the land he had chosen, in section 28. He became one of the leading citizens of the township; was the first justice of the peace in Chesterfield; and was one of the first school examiners, issuing the first forty-seven certificates granted to teachers. Another of the early school examiners of the territory, while it was still part of Lucas County, was Alfred C. Hough, also of Chesterfield Township. Whether they were county school examiners is not clear. "Uncle John" Butler, who was one of the most reliable authorities on the early history of Chesterfield Township stated: "At that time each township had three school examiners, and at this election (1837) Alfred C. Hough, who in after years became prominent in county affairs, was elected one of the school examiners." Darwin E. Butler, son of Harlow, lived fifty years in the township, and was a very useful citizen. He married Aurelia Hibbard, and died in 1886.

William Onweller also came in 1835, settling upon section 23. He and his wife came from Maryland, and became wealthy, eventually. They were prominent in the meetings of the church society, for a short while after his death a church was built on part of his land. He died in 1864.

Jacob Boynton came in 1835, settling on section 14, having bought thirty acres from Chesterfield Clemons. He eventually sold to Eleazer Clark, and left the county.

Nehemiah Cone arrived in 1835, settling on section 24. John S. Butler, who early in that year had found only Indian children with whom he could play, was delighted when two other white boys, sons of Nehemiah Cone, came into the neighborhood.

One of the earliest settlers in 1835 was Nathaniel Parsons, who arrived in the township, with his family, in February. Living was precarious for the early settlers. In 1835, the nearest grist mill was at Tecumseh, thirty miles away, and in that year the Parsons stock of flour became so low that while Mr. Parsons was away from home, having gone with corn for grinding to the mill, the family divided what bread was left in the house, and lived on reduced rations until his return. "Uncle John" Butler said in 1907: "I could spend hours in telling you how we lived through winters, the first years we were here, on corn bread and pumpkin butter, and venison, and not grow

tired of telling about them." At all events, the corn bread seemed to build sturdy constitutions. A story is told of Colonel J. H. Brigham, who was one of the earliest resident of Wauseon, and one of the most famous men of Fulton County. It appears that one day, in Washington, D. C., while he was in office as Assistant Secretary of Agriculture a call was made upon him by a scientist employed by the department to investigate properties of various articles of human food. He stated that corn was not an article of human food, the grain not containing a proper amount of nutriment. Colonel Brigham listened to the argument, and then stalked up and down the room, his towering figure rising about six feet and a half in the air. "That accounts for my stunted growth," he remarked, expanding his chest to about fifty inches. "I knew something was the matter with me, but could never locate it. I was raised on corn bread until I was sixteen. If I had kept off that stuff, I suppose I might have grown to a man's size, instead of being the midget I am, and weighing only about 250 pounds."

Other settlers in 1835 were Samuel Ranger, Thomas Welch, and Amaziah Turner. Others may have come in that year, but the records are not available. Still between 1834 and 1840, the following had settled in Chesterfield Township: Garner Willett, John B. Roos, John P. Roos, Samuel Stutesman, Heman A. Canfield, Alfred C. Hough, James M. Hough, George Patterson, Lyman L. Beebe, Jeremiah Sheffield, James S. Dean, Sr., Gersham Livesay, David Lee, Nathaniel Butler, Hiram Butler, Manley Hawley, Flavel Butler, Daniel Fausey, James Aldrich, Hyson Aldrich, Cicero H. Shaw, James M. Bates, George W. Bates, David L. Beebe, George W. Roos, Isaac Stites, Benjamin Stites, William Stites, William Richards, Lothrop Briggs, James Livesay, Joel Briggs, Warren Beebe, George W. Kellogg, Eleazer Clark, Gideon Clark, Amy, Mariette, and Adaline, daughters of George P. Clark. There were others probably, and in many cases the junior members of the families are not here named. From 1840 to 1850 there was a steady influx of settlers, among whom were: David Marks; William E. Pennington, Ephraim Pennington, who came with his son William; Joseph Lee, who settled on section 22, in 1845; Eustice Leggett, on section 28; Peter Powers, on section 19, in 1849; Henry L. Smith; Charles Bowen; William Lee, from Gorham; William A. Williams and his brother; Ezra Mead; William E. Parmalee; Thomas Cuff; Asahel Kennedy; John W. Bradley, James H. Turner, Jesse Thorpe, Washington Thorpe, Chauncey Bulkley, Asahel Scofield, John Moffatt, Fletcher Bishop, Lewis A. Lee, Almon M. Lee, Charles McKenzie, Clarkson Warne, Lafayette Sherman, Peter Romans, Oliver Todd, Oliver Griffith, John H. Martin, John Smith, Isaac Jones, Peter Jones, Jackson Jones, I. Schoonover, Holloway H. Beatty and his sons Sidney S. and Whitfield, Eustice Leggett, John Stites, and Samuel Gillis.

Garner Willett "drifted" into Chesterfield Township in 1836 or 1837. He had left his home in New York, in 1835, and with thirty-five dollars and a rifle started for the frontier, he being then nineteen years old. The next year or so he passed in hunting in the wilds of Michigan, eventually coming into Chesterfield, and there settling in 1837, having purchased a farm. When he first came into the Town-

ship, he was given employment by Alanson Briggs. In 1837 he paid $120 for a farm of forty acres, and 20 years later he acquired another of 160 acres. He lived to see the twentieth century come in.

The Roos family has been prominent in Chesterfield development practically throughout its history. John B. Roos settled on section 24, in 1836. He died in 1856. His son John Philip, who came at the same time, lived in the township until his death in 1896, and was one of the first members of the Christian Church, organized in East Chesterfield, in 1858, by Elders Hadsell and Carpenter. His brother George W. lived until 1908, a period of seventy-two years spent wholly in Chesterfield Township. He was five years old when the family settled in Chesterfield in 1836. During his life he filled every office in the township; was an active justice of the peace for twenty-five years; was one of the earliest members of Chesterfield Grange; was a charter member of the Christian Church in East Chesterfield; was Sunday school superintendent for twenty-one years in succession; and when he died the county lost "one of its best types of an honest, industrious Christian citizen."

Herman A. Canfield came in 1838, located a farm on sections 32 and 33, built a log house, and in the autumn returned to his home in West Bloomfield, Ontario county, New York state, where in October he married Amanda G. Brown. He passed the winter as a teacher in the academy at West Bloomfield, but early in the spring of 1839 he and his wife left for Ohio. For twenty-two years they lived in Chesterfield Township, later living in Gorham Township. He died in Fayette, May 10, 1901, aged 85 years. Mrs. Cora Spillane, a lifelong friend and neighbor of both Mr. and Mrs. Canfield, contributed the following beautiful tribute, to and reminiscence of, the character of her fellow pioneer:

"Blessed be the tie that binds the hearts of the old pioneers. Ties strengthened by years of mutual helpful sympathy and neighborly kindness.

"But they are passing away, one by one.

"There are still some living who remember Herman Canfield's strong young voice, as he led the singing, or read the sermon at our Sunday meetings in the log school house, where we met Baptists, Congregationalists, Methodists—all who loved the Lord. Creeds were mostly ignored in those days.

"And there may be some old men living yet who helped to raise the big log barn on the old Canfield farm, and heard him thank his neighbors for the kind help, and express his regret that he had no wife, to get for them a good supper, and say: 'I have nothing to offer you to drink but spring water. I have got no whisky for you, and I never will.' "

Alfred C. Hough, who settled on section 21, in 1836, was prominent in county as well as township affairs. He succeeded Harlow Butler as school examiner, receiving that office by appointment, under Lucas County administration. He served three terms as auditor of Fulton County, after it had been organized. He lived the greater part of his life in Chesterfield. His wife outlived him, reaching the age of ninety-five years before she died in 1905. One of their children was later prominent in Wauseon school administration. For thirty-

two years Addie Hough, better known by her marital name, Mrs. Addie DeMeritt, taught the second grade pupils of the Wauseon public school beginning in the "Little White School House."

James M. Hough settled on section 21, coming from New York state. He was township treasurer at one time, and an early postmaster at Oak Shade.

George W. Patterson came in 1838, to section 31, but in 1849 sold, and moved into Dover Township, where he died in 1869. Edward Patterson died at his home, near Oak Shade, in March of 1916, having reached the age of ninety-four years.

Jeremiah Sheffield and his wife spent their honeymoon journeying from New York to Ohio in October of 1838. They reached Chesterfield Township on November 11th. It appears that Indians helped to raise their log cabin to a height of three logs, when the whisky was passed, immediately after drinking which the Indians stopped working. Mr. and Mrs. Sheffield were not able to move into their log cabin until about the middle of December. In the following August, the Indians of the neighborhood, and many hundreds more from Illinois, executed a war dance near the Sheffield cabin. Fortunately no fighting followed. Sarah Waite was only fifteen years old when she married Jeremiah Sheffield, and came with him into the wilderness. She bore him twelve children, six of whom were sons, among them Frederick B., who served with honor during the Civil War, and was later prominent in township affairs of Chesterfield.

Lyman L. Beebe settled on six acres of wild land on section 27. He built the first steam sawmill in the township, in 1844, and ran it for about twelve years on what was later the Crittenden farm. In 1856 he removed the saw mill to section 13, where he operated it for a number of years. Eventually, he owned more than five hundred acres in Chesterfield Township. He was captain of the Chesterfield company of State Militia, and was present at the final mustering of that body at Etna, in 1843.

James S. Dean, originally from New York, settled in Michigan in 1831, and in 1838 came into Chesterfield Township settling upon sections 24 and 25. He died in 1901, having lived in Chesterfield for more than sixty years. For forty years he was an active church member. He married Eunice Clemons in 1847.

David Lee settled in Chesterfield in 1837. His son Peleg S., later became the directing head of an important industry of the township. He had a cheese plant, and in the '80s was manufacturing 150,000 to 200,000 pounds of cheese each year.

The Stites family had considerable part in early Chesterfield development. Jacob Stites, who was only seven years old when his parents brought him to Chesterfield, in 1843, met death by accident in his seventy-third year, falling heavily from a high truckload of hay. He lived sixty-five years in the township.

The Thorpe family was of good record also in Chesterfield, Joseph Thorpe being among the earliest residents; and his sons, Washington, Lewis and Jesse, having good part in development work. Rebecca, wife of Joseph died in 1912, at the home of her son, Washington, with whom she had lived for eighteen years, since the death of her husband. She was almost eighty-five years old when death came.

The Marks family has been one of the home builders of Chester-

field Township. David Marks came in the forties from New York state, and the family has been consistently prosperous. Elias Marks who was killed by an enraged bull in March, 1920, was one of the most progressive farmers of the county, and, it has been stated, had one of the finest herds of Holstein cattle in northwestern Ohio.

William Lee came from Gorham Township in 1846. He died in Chesterfield in 1854, but his wife Sarah (Marlatt) lived until 1878. He was one of the early justices of the township, and in his last years was township clerk. His son, Lewis A., was Township Trustee, and later postmaster at Oak Shade. Another son, Almon M., became Recorder of Fulton County, and died while holding that office, the County Commissioners then appointing George W. Lee to succeed his father.

William A. Williams who came with his brother Edward in 1845, was a capable educator. He was appointed county school examiner, by Judge O. B. Verity, in 1876, or 1877, and held that office with distinction for about eleven years.

William E. Parmalee, a settler of 1840, was an associate judge for a brief period, succeeding Alfred C. Hough, and he was chosen as deputy marshal, in 1850, to take the census of part of Fulton County.

The public record of Albert Deyo is one of which the people of Chesterfield Township are proud. He did not come to Chesterfield Township until 1855, but he was nevertheless a pioneer, for he took 160 acres of forest, a short distance west of Denson Station, and "with indomitable will" set himself the task of "carving a home out of the wilderness." All of the clearing of his land he did not do himself, but as a carpenter he contributed to the upbuilding of the neighborhood. In the early days of the Civil War he served in the militia, in the grade of captain, and later joined the Union army, as a private, rising to a captaincy, when the company was reorganized. In 1872 he was elected Clerk of Fulton County, serving as such for six years; in 1883 he was elected to represent the county in the state legislature, and was re-elected in 1885. Albert Deyo's name is encountered in the records of very many of the worth-while public movements in Fulton County, during the latter half of the nineteenth century, and "when the call came (in 1912) to Albert Deyo....he could answer in an abiding conviction of a life well lived and of duties well done." The substantial brick, mansion-like home he erected on his farm is indicative of the prosperity that came to him by his labor.

The first white child born in Chesterfield was Martha, daughter of Amaziah Turner, who settled in the township in 1835. The date of her birth was July 29, 1835.

The first storekeeper in the township was, as before explained, Alanson Briggs. He also was the first hotel-keeper. Alfred C. Hough to some extent traded in groceries, in the early days of his settlement, selling from his cabin.

The first cheese factory was that conducted by John R. Roberts, and later transferred to Peleg S. Lee, who considerably developed the enterprise.

The first marriage was that of Sallie A. Clemons to Elias Salisbury, in 1840. The following-named early settlers of Chesterfield Township also married daughters of Chesterfield and Fannie (Down-

ing) Clemons: James S. Dean, Delvan C. Gillis, John S. Butler, and James Hough.

There was no post office in the township for many years; but eventually one, called "Oak Shade" was established near the geographical center, and supplied three times each week from a mail route running from Morenci, Michigan, to Wauseon. The first mail service in the county was that established in the fall of 1836, to run from Toledo, Ohio, to Lima, Indiana, over the old territorial road, sometimes called the Vistula road, a distance of 110 miles, ninety miles of which John S. Butler, a boy passed along twice weekly carrying the mails. He died in Chesterfield, in 1907, aged eighty-three years, his widow, Lovina Chesterfield, soon following him. She was a venerable old lady, and in her old age was honored by election to the dignity of president of the Fulton County Pioneer and Historical Society.

Space is not available unfortunately, otherwise it would be pleasing to make reference to other worthy pioneers and prominent citizens of Chesterfield Township, by whose efforts the district has been made a rich part of the county. It is however gratifying to know that some have been given somewhat extensive mention in the biographical volume of this historical work.

The First Election

According to John S. Butler, who was present, and in later life had in his possession the book in which the official record was written, the first election in Chesterfield Township was held in Briggs' store on July 19, 1837. Historian Aldrich states that the house of Chesterfield Clemons was the place of election. In Butler's own words, the story of the first election runs:

"Although a boy but thirteen years of age, I remember well the first election ever held in Chesterfield. It was held in Briggs' store July 19, 1837. It was at this meeting that the township was organized. Briggs was a very wealthy man for those days, and he had many papers to sign that required an acknowledgment before a justice of the peace, and the nearest justice was at Sylvania, so each time he had to make this long trip. To avoid this inconvenience, and to make it more convenient for the settlers to transact business, he and Clemons set out to have the township organized. I can seem to hear those pioneers, now, discussing township organization. Finally a day was set, and word was sent to all the settlers to meet at Briggs' store, and this they did on the date given above. Everybody was enthusiastic over the organization, and when it came to proposing a name for the township all agreed that it should be called 'Chesterfield,' in honor of Chesterfield Clemons, the first permanent white settler in the township.

"Dover and Gorham townships were not organized at that time, and under the law the settlers of these townships were allowed to vote at Chesterfield. There were twelve votes cast at this election. Gersham Livesay, Gorham Cottrell, and John B. Roe were judges of the election, and Alanson Briggs, and Jesse Oles were clerks. . . . Mr. Briggs was elected clerk, and as there was no one in the township qualified to administer the oath of office, Mr. Briggs went to Sylvania and was sworn

in, and upon his return home administered the oath of office to the other newly elected officials."

Chesterfield School History

Historians Micksell and Aldrich state that the first school house built in Chesterfield was that "hastily constructed....on section 16, on the north-east corner, just south of the Hawley Cemetery" in 1837; further stating that "Flavel Butler taught the first school in the winter of 1837, and this was the first school ever taught in the township." Butler, however, gives the date of the building of the first schoolhouse as in 1838, and his version is strengthened by the fact, recorded by Aldrich, that "the first attempt of the people to levy a tax for school purposes failed at the first election, but at the next election it was carried by a majority vote of the people." Butler's version reads:

"In the summer of 1838 the first school house in Chesterfield was built. The Government had set apart for school purposes section 16 in every township, and in locating the new schoolhouse, it was decided to build it in this section....It was a crude affair..built of logs and roofed with clapboards, which those early pioneers had split out of logs cut from trees in the adjacent forest. In the end of the building was constructed a large fireplace which was to warm the entire room. Many a log was carried in and rolled into the fireplace by the teacher and big boys. The desks were puncheon, logs split in halves with the flat side turned up, fastened to pins driven into the side of the walls. The seats were made of the same material, into which legs were driven. There were no backs to these seats. Neither were there seats in the center of the room, as there was no place to fasten a desk. The teacher, by his water beech rod, reigned in this room as an absolute monarch ....About all we were taught in those days were included in the three R's—'reading,'riting and 'rithmetic'."

It was not long before the children needing schooling became too many to be accommodated in that central school house so other districts were organized. Records are not available, excepting of School District No. 3, of which Miss Olive Roos, now of Wauseon, but formerly of the Chesterfield Township family of that name, preserved much historical data. That school district was more generally known as the Maple Grove School District. It appears that the first school in that district, East Chesterfield, was held in the early forties. Miss Roos' record is as follows:

"The first school in the Roos district was in a log cabin of Mr. Livesay's situated a short distance west of Fred Weatherby's. The first teacher was Mr. Henman.

The second schoolhouse was on the flats north of William Onweller's barn, on his Brookside farm. The first teachers were Conant and Baxter. The third schoolhouse was where the church now stands. The teacher was Flavel Butler. The fourth schoolhouse was situated on the opposite corner, north of the church. The teachers were Laura Ranger and Mary Ann Stevenson.

All of these schoolhouses were of log, filled in with split timber, like rails, covered with clay instead of plaster, as there was no lime. The floors were of split puncheon, hewed upon the face; the seats and

desks the same, being the length of the room on three sides, one seat on each side with the desk placed next to the wall. There were three small windows made lengthwise, and one door.

The fifth school was situated on the north-west corner of the J. P. Roos farm, a frame building built by Chapin Daniels and Perry Hamlin. It is used at present for a grain house on the Maple Grove Farm."

Regarding the Maple Grove School, much information is contained in an available school register covering the period of 1865-71. Earlier teachers in that school were F. F. Curtis, Milton Cass, Pauline Huit, Lydia Sanford Daniels, three Bennett sisters, Dallas Brown, Mary Jane Sanford Dunn, Minta Parker Hoover, and Julia Root Rich. The school register shows that: during that summer of 1865 Helen Bennett Foote taught for three months at $10 a month: that Julia Root Rich taught in the winter of that year and the following summer term. She was considered one of the best teachers in the county and received

Chesterfield Centralized School.

twenty dollars a month during the winter term and thirteen dollars a month in summer. In 1868, Milton Cass was the teacher, receiving $30 a month, and board. In the summer of that year, Jennie Agnew Gorsuch, of Wauseon, taught for $9 a month. Anna Fleet Bloomer, also of Wauseon, was the next teacher, and she was followed by Libbie Roos Haley, of Delta. In the winter of 1870 Dallas Brown received $33.50 a month; and in the following winter term Libbie Beatty Gorham, of Morenci, taught in the new brick building. The books used during the period were: reader and speller, McGuffey's; writing, Spencerian; mental and written arithmetic, Ray's; geography, Colton and Fitche's; grammar, Pinneo's.

Miss Roos' record shows that the brick schoolhouse built in 1871 was the sixth schoolhouse erected for District No. 3, and that:

James Onweler and Philip Roos furnished the material and superintended the construction. The land was purchased from Holloway

Beatty. The following were early teachers in the brick schoolhouse: Libbie Beatty Gorham; Rutter Haley; John Cuff; Ida Fish; Edison Waffle and wife; Jessie Wilson Tallman; John and Olive Clark; and Harvey Dunlap. After thirty years, the building was condemned, and ultimately passed into the possession of Rutter and Haley, who demolished it and carried away the bricks. In, about, the year 1900, the seventh schoolhouse for the Maple Grove district was built by Mr. Guthrie. This was placed on the same lot, only a little to the north of where the old brick building stood. The new schoolhouse, however, was of frame construction; and the teachers in this house were Bessie Smith Phelps, Olive and Gertrude Clark.

Since the establishment of the large centralized school, in 1916, however, all district schools of Chesterfield Township have been abandoned; and the people of the township are proud now to be able to send their children to one of the best centralized schools in Northwest Ohio. The school history had been gradually veering toward centralization for many years, and in the first decade of the twentieth century, the "Fulton County Tribune" had forcefully and convincingly advocated the change of school system. The people of Chesterfield Township were progressive and receptive, so that when the public schools of the county came under the direct control of the Fulton County Board of Education, under the new school law of 1914, they enthusiastically furthered, as regards the schools of their own township, the plan of the county board, which plan was to give earliest possible attention to the centralization, or consolidation, of rural schools, establishing good schools at the natural community centers, irrespective of township lines, and thereby place within the reach of the rising generation of Fulton County people better educational facilities, and in brighter and healthier surroundings. Fulton Township had already centralized, and the winter term of Chesterfield schools in 1916 began in a new brick building, which had cost more than $30,000 to erect. On October 5, 1916, nearly 200 people assembled at the school, which was situated seven miles north of Wauseon, and a mile west of Oak Shade; and thirty-five teams made short work of the grading of the school grounds, preparatory to the opening ceremony. The Chesterfield Centralized School is a high school of the first grade; has four rooms for high school purposes and an equal number for elementary grades. In 1919 thirty-seven students were enrolled in the high school, and in the elementary grades there were 224 pupils. The elementary curriculum includes elementary school agriculture, arithmetic, drawing, geography, grammar, orthography, physiology, reading, U. S. history, and writing; the high school course includes agriculture, algebra, commercial subjects, English, including rhetoric, general history, geometry, literature, U. S. history. The school library comprises more than four hundred volumes. The school is under the able direction of Kenneth M. Whaley, principal, and under the supervision of Earl F. Chase, who is district superintendent. The members of the Chesterfield Centralized School Board, 1920, are: E. B. Beatty, Wauseon, president; A. H. Philips, Morenci, Mich., clerk; D. B. Simpson, Earl Valentine, Clem Smith, and F. A. Bates, all of Morenci postal address, directors. The people of Chesterfield Township might well be satisfied with the school facilities now available in the township.

Cemeteries

There have been three important cemeteries in the township; the first upon section 9; one on section 28; and the other on section 24. Rose Hill Cemetery, situated on the east line of Chesterfield Township, on Maple Grove Farm, was established on April 1, 1854, when a meeting was held in Maple Grove School House, to form a cemetery association. Citizens of Chesterfield and Royalton townships attending the meeting elected trustees as follows: James Welch, Clark Standish, Holloway H. Beatty, Silas Lusk, Henry J. Clark, and John B. Roos, with Mr. Fordes as chairman, and F. Curtis, secretary. The trustees purchased the land from Philip Roos for ten dollars, the deed being written by Samuel Gillis, probate judge, on February 9, 1855. The burial ground was fenced at a cost of $37.75, and was completed on May 15, 1854. The first burial was on August 8, 1854, when the body of Nehemiah Cone was interred. On April 10, 1886, J. Rutter Haley, Theodore Sebring, and Charles Stutesman, trustees of Chesterfield Township, purchased the ground, which since has been in the possession of the township.

East Church In Christ

In 1857, brothers L. L. Carpenter and James Hadsell held meetings in the Maple Grove schoolhouse, then situated on the north-eastern corner of Philip Roos farm, section 24. At times, when the occasion demanded more commodious quarters, the services were held in the barn of the Roos homestead. In the following year, on April 10, 1858, the church was organized by electing Plyn Harnden, James S. Dean, and George W. Roos, elders, and Philip Roos, Shepherd Davison, and James B. Carpenter, deacons. The church at the outset was a strong one, there being seventy charter members. And after some years the members sought to erect a church building. A site was purchased from William Onweller for fifty dollars, the deed being written under the date of December 17, 1864. A meeting was called by the Rev. J. C. Goodrich for the purpose of organizing a society to build the meeting house. Plyn Harnden, James Onweller, and J. P. Roos were appointed as trustees, and George W. Roos treasurer. They contracted with J. H. Turner and Albert Deyo, who were to furnish a frame structure complete, with the exception of the stone foundation, for the sum of $2,125. Joseph Brown raised it, and as it was war time, when men were scarce, pulley and tackle had to be the main elements in the raising of the timbers; and at that work four lads, George and Jerry Sheffield, G. H. Stutesman, and Chester Welch did splendidly. Within contract time the building was ready, and on December 21, 1865, was dedicated as a house of worship by the Rev. L. L. Carpenter, one of the pioneers of the Christian Church in Fulton county. Since that time the house has been remodeled more than once. It is of interest to note that the lumber for the seats was made from two white oak trees, about four feet in diameter, sold for one dollar to the contractors by Mr. Grey, who then lived where Frank Denson now resides. An annex was built in 1912, and dedicated on January 5, 1913, by the Rev. Williston, of Genoa. More than five hundred and sixty members have belonged to that church during the last fifty years.

The East Church in Christ was so named because of other churches in the township, one at Inlet and the other at Oak Shade.

Chesterfield Township is without industries, other than agricultural. It is rich dairying territory, and the progressive farmers of the township have a good outlet for their milk product in the large condensing plant just over the line in Michigan. It was at one time an important cheese-making district, one factory alone, in 1887, making in Chesterfield Township, more than one hundred thousand pounds of cheese. Now its milk product chiefly goes in the liquid state.

As will be seen by reference to the map reproduced for this volume, Chesterfield Township is not well served by railroads, but in these days of motor-driven road vehicles the people of the township are not seriously handicapped. Most of the progressive and prosperous farmers have automobiles, and motor trucks.

It would not be inappropriate to place in permanent record, by including in this chapter, some further reminiscent stories of "Uncle John" Butler. The reminiscences were gathered, fragment by fragment, by Mr. Frank H. Reighard, in conversations he had with the old pioneer in the last year, or two, of the latter's life. One story begins:

"In those early days the pioneers secured their supply of honey from 'bee trees,' which they found in the forest. In the fall of the year, it was not an uncommon occurrence to find a settler going through the woods looking for a bee-tree.....One fine October morning, a year or so after we had located in Chesterfield Township Mr. Briggs said to me: 'This is a good morning to locate a bee tree, and I guess we had better go to the big timber on Bean Creek, and see what we can find.' The necessary outfit was soon put in readiness for the day's hunt, and an hour later we were tramping westward through the big woods, dodging around marshes, crossing streams on fallen logs, looking for bee trees. It was along in the middle of the afternoon when we came to an open place in the woods, where some honey bees were working on some wild flowers. Mr. Briggs tried to get a line on the bees, as they left the flowers for the tree, but after going a short distance in the woods the line was lost. In the outfit which we had brought along was some old honeycomb. He built a small fire and commenced to burn this honeycomb. In a little while the bees were flying around us, having been attracted there by the burning of the comb. By this time Mr. Briggs soon located the bee-line, which he had lost. The bees flew thick, and it was not difficult to follow them. He left me to burn the comb, while he followed the line of the tree, for when a bee is loaded with honey it flies directly to its home, and the same is true when it leaves the tree—it goes in a straight line to the place where it is working. Near the fire where I was burning the comb was another piece of comb for the bees to feed on. It seemed to me as if I had been burning that comb long enough for Mr. Briggs to have gone five or six miles, and I was getting rather tired of my job, as it was not the most pleasant thing to be left alone in the center of a big woods.

"As I sat there watching the bees feed on the old comb, until they had all they could carry away, then rise a few feet in the air, and start off through the woods in the direction in which I had seen Mr. Briggs leave, I heard a noise a short distance back of me. I was not startled

at the sound, for it was not uncommon in those days to have an Indian walk up to you, without your seeing or hearing him until he spoke to you, and so, being busy just then fixing the fire and burning a little more comb, I did not look around. A few minutes later I heard the same sound again. Then I heard a sniffing. I did not turn round, but kept perfectly quiet, thinking it was a deer. The nearer the sound came, the less I thought it was a deer. The sniffing was within a few feet of me, and I thought it was time that I found out what it was making the noise. I raised up, and looked around,

"THE SNIFFING WAS WITHIN A FEW FEET OF ME."

and there, within ten feet of me, sat a big black bear. I uttered a scream, and with a bound I was going down through the woods as fast as my legs would carry me. I called for help, and ran as fast as I could in the direction taken by Mr. Briggs, when he left me burning the comb. At every bound I expected to feel the fangs of that bear sink into my flesh. I did not stop to turn around, but kept on running until I reached Mr. Briggs, who had heard my cries for help, and had hurried back to me. Reaching me he exclaimed: 'What's the matter, John?' All I could say was 'A bear.' He took hold of my

hand, and assured me that there was no bear in sight. For a while I was afraid to look around, but upon his assurance that there was no bear I turned around, and, sure enough, he was gone. We walked back to where I was burning the honeycomb, but no bear was there; but the comb that I had left on the ground when I made my hurried flight was gone. It seemed that the bear had been satisfied with the comb which I left, and after eating that had gone his way, not wishing to hurt me, or anyone else.

"As we went along our way home that evening, I jumped at every sound that was out of the ordinary, and that night, after I was in bed, I could see that big black bear sitting up on his hind legs looking at me. It was hours before I could go to sleep, and of all the scares that I received those early days none left a more lasting impression on my mind than the one given me by that black bear in the big woods on Bean Creek bottoms, on that October afternoon in the 'thirties.

"Mr. Briggs had just located the bee-tree when he heard my screams. A few days later the tree was cut, and the honey we got out of it was enjoyed upon our corn bread for many a day."

Describing a visit he made to the Indian Reservation late in life, many decades after the last of the Indians had left Ohio, he said:

"I loved the Indian, for he was ever true to him who showed him a kindness. Many a time I have heard the Chiefs Winameg and Ottokee discuss the white man's coming. I have heard them talk of Winslow and Colonel Howard, and praise their goodness...A few years ago I was visiting friends in Kansas who were living near the reservation to which the Indians of this county were sent, and while there I went over to see if I could find an Indian whom I had known here. I asked for the Pottawattamies....., and as I passed through their village I saw one face that I thought seemed familiar to me. As I started to go toward the Indian...I noticed that he was watching me, and as I advanced toward him he approached me. I extended my hand, and said in broken Indian tongue: 'I know your face, but I have forgotten your name.' He said: 'You are John Butler, the white man's boy, with whom I played beyond the Great Water.' It was one of the Indian boys with whom I had played at Briggs' store. We sat down on the ground and talked for hours. He told me that of all the young men of his tribe who had come West he alone was left. As I took his hand to say 'Goodbye,' tears were streaming down his cheeks, and placing his other hand upon my shoulder, he looked into my face and said: 'White man. A long farewell.' And there standing by that lone wigwam on that Kansas reservation, I left the only Indian in the wide world who still remembered John Butler."

"Uncle John" Butler ended his reminiscences thus: "Few are the pioneers remaining, and ere long our feet will have touched the Silver Strand, and our mission will be ended." Yes. The feet of John S. Butler, the last of the pioneers of the first years of Chesterfield Township have at last touched the Silver Strand, and he is with his old friends, Indian and white.

Just before going to press, the preliminary announcement of population has been issued by the Bureau of the Census, and it is therefore possible to give the 1920 figures for Chesterfield Township. The Census figures are: 1870, 926; 1880, 1,013; 1890, 997; 1900, 1,078; 1910, 1,010; 920, 1,012.

CHAPTER XIII

HISTORY OF GERMAN TOWNSHIP

Unlike the history of any other township of Fulton county, that of German Township began with the simultaneous settlement within it of many people—more than forty. Other townships experienced a gradual incoming of settlers, but German Township settlement may almost be described as colonization. And to some extent it has maintained that character throughout its history. In 1834 worthy pioneers, men of strong religious faith, and rigid purpose, and simple habits, came into the territory with their families, as will be narrated later in this chapter, and established a small colony; and they were bound together in sentiment, in general thought, and in rules of life and conduct, by the dictates of a strict church code, that of the Mennonite Church, a branch of which these simple and righteous pioneers, in coming, necessarily established in German Township. And as others of that church came into Fulton county they naturally settled as near as they could to their brethren. German Township therefore has remained distinctive, and its stalwart straight-living and hard-working residents have created for it an enviable place among the townships of Fulton county.

German Township is the largest, in point of acreage, in the county; and in population it comes next to Clinton, the latter township having now (1920) 4778 inhabitants, and German Township 3137. But in some phases of its activity it is second to none. Its fine farms have been developed from the wilderness by the resolute purpose of God-fearing, honorable, hardworking tillers of the soil. And its succeeding generations from that of the pioneers have been reared in a wholesome home environment and a simple worship of God, such as have maintained in the boys commendable characteristics of their fathers, and in the girls the clean-living, kindly, hospitable traits of their mothers. The people of the Mennonite Church are noted for their hospitality and for their integrity of word.

The township of German was organized on March 4, 1839, and from April 1, 1820, when the Legislature of Ohio decreed the organization of counties from Indian territory, until 1850, when Fulton county was established, the territory embraced in German Township came within the jurisdiction of three counties, Wood, Henry, and Williams. In 1835, Lucas county was organized from Wood county, the new county embracing all the territory west of Lake Erie, south of the Fulton Line, to the northern line of Henry county, and running west to the Williams County line. After this territory became part of Lucas county, June 6, 1836, three ranges of townships were organized into the township of York, and elections were held at what was called "York Center." On March 5, 1838, Clinton Township was organized, embracing ranges five and six west of York, and on March 4, 1839,

German Township was organized, from towns seven and eight north, range five east. On March 1, 1841, when Franklin Township was organized, German lost to it all of town eight north, range five east, and one tier of sections off the north side of town seven north, range five east. The next and last change came in 1850, when Fulton county was organized. Then, the territory of German Township was increased by the addition of a strip two miles wide off the north side of town six north, range five east, then Ridgeville Township, Henry county. With the reorganization, German Township at the same time received from Brady Township, Williams County, a strip of land two miles wide, embracing two tiers of sections, with the exception of sections one and two, which were included in Franklin Township boundaries. German Township has therefore fifty-two full sections of land, making an area of fifty-two square miles or 33,280 acres. It is bounded on the east by Clinton Township, on the west by Williams county, on the north by Franklin Township, and on the south by Henry county.

German Township is very level, its soil has been brought into good fertility only by much drainage, but it has well repaid the labor expended, and in agricultural product German Township leads. Bean Creek runs through the northwest corner of the township. Brush Creek also passes through it.

The first settlement of the township was effected on August 23, 1834, at what is now called Lauber's Hill, two miles east of Burlington. The narrative of the settlement, as told by the Rev. Jacob Binder, one of the pioneers, to J. W. Roseborough, in 1896, gives perhaps a clearer indication of the rugged simplicity of the people of German Township than could be told in other words. It seems that:

"Jacob Binder and his family, on the 8th day of March, 1834, together with Christian Lauber and Christian Rupp, and their respective families, all of Alsace, in the vicinity of Mulhausen.....started for America. Mr. Lauber's family consisted of his wife, Magdalena Zimmerman, and four children; Mr. Rupp's family was composed of himself and wife, Christina Stuckey, and four childhen..... These three families, numbering twenty-one in all, started together. .....They employed three teams and wagons, and drove through to Havre, France, in 17 days.....About the 8th of April, they took ship, and sailed for New York, consuming about seven weeks in the voyage.....They reached New York the latter part of June, without special accident or loss.....On their way across the ocean they were passed by a larger vessel, containing many immigrants from Schaffhausen, Switzerland.....Our three families remained only a short time in New York. From that city they came to Buffalo.....From Buffalo, they came on the lake to Cleveland; thence they went on the canal to the little town of Fulton, in Stark county, where they were met by one Peter Schrock, and a number of other generous Amish brethren, who conveyed them to their comfortable homes in the vicinity of what is now called Marshallville, Wayne County, Ohio. Here they remained.....for six weeks. There entertainers were blessed with fine farms and handsome buildings. These, or similar ones, our newly-arrived immigrants were unable to purchase, having but a limited supply of means. During the six weeks the Mulhausen families remained in Wayne county, they met there a number of

the immigrants from Schaffhausen, Switzerland, who had passed them on the ocean.....they were all Amish. Of these families from Switzerland were the following: 1st, Jacob Kibler and wife, Susan Meister, and seven children; 2nd, John George Meister and wife, Margaret Keller, and 12 children; 3rd, John Van Gundy, a widower, having four children.....

"Our immigrants, in view of their large families and limited means, after due consultation resolved to go further west, and select lands for themselves. The following persons were chosen to make selections: Jacob Kibler, J. George Meister, Christian Rupp, and Peter Wyse. Mr. Wyse, a resident of Wayne county, accompanied them in the capacity of guide and interpreter. In the meantime, the rest of the immigrants remained in Wayne county. The committee appointed proceeded on foot to Putman county, but finding there the land too wet and level, and solid timber too scarce, they went into the vicinity of Fort Wayne, Indiana. There they found the land and timber much the same as in Putman county. From Fort Wayne they came back to Defiance, Ohio. There they heard of one Joseph Bates, eighteen miles north, a noted hunter, and a man with a broad and accurate knowledge of the country. Mr. Bates then lived on what is now known as the John Shilling Farm, in the southwestern part of Franklin Township, Fulton county. To him they gladly came. They found him to be the man they exactly needed.....He gave them a cordial reception, and took them six miles east of his place, to what is now called Lauber's Hill.....then a wild and dreary wilderness. Here they resolved to locate. They selected eight hundred acres of land, went to the U. S. Land Office, at Wapakoneta, and entered the same, after which they returned to Wayne county, having spent two weeks in the business, and having done all the travelling on foot. The next important practical question.....was how, with their families and goods, to reach their newly-acquired lands in the wild woods, a hundred and sixty, or more, miles distant. To accomplish this five wagons and five yoke of oxen were purchased. Each of the five families that went to the new homes purchased a wagon and yoke of oxen. The following are the families and persons who first came to what is now German Township, and made the first settlement therein: 1st, Jacob Binder and wife and the following of his children: Anna, Jacob, Sophronia, and Regina. Mr. Binder's other daughters came a little later: 2nd, Christian Lauber, wife and four children; 3rd, Jacob Kilber and the following of his children: Jacob, George, Heronimus, Elizabeth and Mary. Mrs. Kilber, Susan and Melchoir remained for a time in Wayne county: 4th, J. George Meister, and the following of his children: Jacob, George, John, and Anna. His wife and other children came later; 5th, John Van Gundy, and his three children, Joseph, the fourth and youngest, dying at Providence, on the way out from Wayne county.

"Accompanying these families were Nicholas King, Samuel Burkholder, Christian Reigseker and Nicholas Gehr, otherwise called Nicholas Wenger, because Mrs. Wenger, a widow lady, brought him to this country from Switzerland.....Gehr.....returned to Wayne county (eventually) with King and Burkholder, who had only come with the settlers to aid them in getting started.....In their journey to the west, our immigrants came through Wooster, Ashland, Lower Sanduky, now Fremont, to Perrysburgh, where they crossed the Maumee River.

"Having crossed the river, they proceeded west to Napoleon."

In crossing the river, there being no bridge, Mr. Binder, with his wagon, struck a large stone, and but for the help of the others would have been unable to extricate himself. Having crossed the river they proceeded westward to Napoleon, which place they reached after a very tedious journey (of sixteen days) having travelled at the rate of about ten miles a day. At this time, there was but one house in Napoleon.....a log house. This, our subject thinks, was occupied, in part at least, by a man named Wolfe, others say by a Mr. Hueston. It is not improbable that at that time both.....lived in the house. Now from Napoleon to reach their point of destination, nearly twenty miles north and west through a dense and trackless forest, was a.....perplexing question. They finally decided to employ a surveyor to locate the most direct route. They estimated that no more than two days would be required to do this. Eight men accompanied the surveyor, to blaze trees, and otherwise assist in the work. At the end of the first day, the company found that they had advanced only eight miles. Here, in the thick woods and countless myriads of mosquitos, they were compelled to camp for the night. Realizing that the supply of food for the trip was inadequate, they despatched two of their men to Napoleon for additional rations, the remaining men continuing the survey. Instead of at Lauber's Hill, the surveyors came out where the village of Burlington now is, two miles west of the point aimed at. When they finally reached the place sought, it was night, and they were without food, shelter, or bed to sleep on. To still further add to their discomfort, a heavy rain and thunderstorm came on, and they all became thoroughly wet to the skin. They built a large fire and stood about it with clothes wringing wet, the long, long night through, the wind blowing, the tops of the trees waving, the thunder roaring, and the lightning flashing....most of the night. In the morning, without supper or breakfast, without sleep or rest, and still wet, they had no alternative but to begin their return trip to Napoleon. Fortunately.....about noon, they met the two men with the provisions ordered. Scarcely ever, perhaps, was food devoured with keener relish. The night following they camped where they had....the first night....The next day they reached Napoleon. Here they found six of their companions down, sick with those other plagues of the West, fever and ague. Orders however, were at once issued for all who had 'hands and feet,' to lay hold and open a road on the surveyed line, the wagons and all together advancing as the road was opened. At meal times, forks were driven into the ground, on which poles were placed. On these, pots for cooking were hung. Water was secured, such as it was, from holes dug two or three feet in the ground At night, they slept in their wagons, or otherwise, as best they could, and fought mosquitos with fire and smoke. After eleven long days spent in severe toil and slow movement, they finally reached, August 22nd, 1834, the point in the forest where they proposed to make their future homes. Here in the deep woods, without a house, or a foot of cleared land, strangers, unacquainted with the laws of the country and its general customs and language, more than four thousand miles from their native land, totally ignorant of frontier life and of its methods and instruments of labor, many of them, too, already sick, and thirty miles or more from market or doctor, the situation was gloomy indeed. In the face of all these difficulties and discouragements, the heroic people resolved bravely to persevere in their effort to make for themselves independent homes. For a time they slept in their wagons,

and under roofs constructed of brush and leaves. The first house built was a cabin, about 20x24 feet, on Mr. Christian Lauber's land, about thirty rods north of the site of the brick house, in which Samuel Lauber, a grandson, now resides. By reason of sickness, only six men of all the settlers were able to help put up the house. Joseph Bates, and his hired man, kindly came about six miles, and greatly assisted in raising the building. It took them two days of hard labor to erect it... Other buildings, of a similar character, were soon after erected for the different other families, on their respective lands, except that for Mr. Binder, because of his disability occasioned by constant illness for six months, a small cabin was built near Mr. Lauber's house and on his land. Of this cabin, about 12x14 feet, one half the floor was made of split puncheons. The other half was the ground. In this shanty, without chimney—the fire being built on the ground—the Binder family lived their first winter in America. Their little cabin.....was often so full of smoke that the inmates were often very nearly stifled.

In the spring, the family and goods in the house were about the color of smoked ham. While smoke.....thus gave the settlers annoyance.....it did them.....almost invaluable service, in shielding them from.....numberless hosts of mosquitoes... Except Mr. Kibler, the settlers were poor, and for a number of years experienced much difficulty in procuring sufficient.....provisions..... They had to go to Maumee to mill and market, and to reach it.....had to go by the way of Napoleon. This made the distance about forty-five miles. It generally took a week's time to drive there and back with there ox teams, over such roads as they then had. The roads, especially in wet weather, were often next to impassable.....On one occasion Mr. Lauber and another of the settlers, took a wagon and two yoke of oxen, and went to Maumee for provisions. On their way back they reached Brush Creek, about two miles distant from their homes. The creek at that time was wide and deep, the ground underneath soft, and from the long journey with the wagon and load, over bad roads, the oxen were jaded and tired. Still, impelled by a keen sense of their nearness to their homes and with the knowledge of the necessity of being there with the provisions, they urged the oxen into and half way across the stream. There, however, the oxen stopped, being entirly exhausted. All effort to get them to move on was fruitless. It was night, and the men unyoked the wagon, and went to their homes. Returning next morning, they found the wagon and oxen where they had left them the evening before. It was cold, and during the night ice had frozen over the creek. The tails of the cattle were actually frozen fast in the ice. The men broke the ice over the water, waded in and drove the oxen out, and home, leaving the wagon and provisions. The followng night the ice froze so solid that the men came next day and slid the provisions over the stream on the ice.

"Sometimes, from waiting too long before starting to mill, or from detention on the way, the settlers came near perishing for want of food. Raccoons, woodchucks, the flesh of animals that had starved to death, wild weeds, vegetables not esteemed fit for human food, and bran and water mixed, were used for food, in order to keep soul and body together. For the cattle, for sometime after the settlement began, little grass or hay could be secured. To keep their cattle alive winters—they had no horses for years—trees were cut down by the settlers that

their animals might eat the tops, which they did with great eagerness. Quite a number of their oxen and cows, however.....died for want of food. Why, it may be asked did not these people kill wild game in the woods, where, in large numbers, such game abounded? The answer is, those people were not hunters, and had for quite a time neither guns nor ammunition. Our subject (Jacob Binder, Jr.)..... says they never had any relish for hunting. He, in common with the rest of the first settlers, very much preferred chopping, rail-making, and clearing, to hunting or fishing.....But for the faithful service and kindness of his three sisters, Catherine, Anne, and Barbara, who obtained from fifty to seventy-five cents a week by employment among residents along the Maumee River, Mr. Binder tells us, he believes his father and the family would have certainly perished."

Despite all handicaps, however, these determined pioneers eventually conquered, and gradually won much more than the mere wherewithal to live; they developed agricultural estates such as they never thought, while they were still in their native land, it would be ever their good fortune to own.

"HE.....PREFERRED CHOPPING AND CLEARING TO HUNTING."

There were no other settlers in German Township in 1834, and before the end of that year two of the sons of Mr. Meister died of ague. Physicians were unobtainable, and only simple home medicines were available.

The settlers in 1835, according to Albert S. Fleet, who wrote a "History of German Township," in about 1876, were Augustus Hull and wife; Peter Wyse, wife, and children; Christian Funkhouser; Peter Leithy; Peter Rupp; W. Grisier and family; Christian Beck and family; Nathan, Job and John Borton and their mother; Bethuel Borton and wife; Joseph Borton and family. The last named family came from New Jersey, and settled on Bean Creek.

In 1836, John Reynolds and his sons, Isaac, Adna and John came from Vermont, and settled on the east bank of Bean Creek, on land now in Franklin Township; Jonathan and Dorsey Barnes, with their families, came from Virginia; George Ditto and family came from Seneca County, Ohio; Daniel Schad (Shorr) and family, direct from France;

Peter Schad (Shorr) and family; Christian Schad (Shorr) and family; Peter G. Gull and family, all from France.

Settlers in German Township in 1837 were Samuel Burkholder and family; Peter Naufsinger (Nofziger) and John Rivnaugh (Rufenact), from Europe; John Lutes, Henry Lutes and family, from another part of Ohio; George Johnson, William Johnson, and Benjamin Lee, from England; Samuel Gibbons and family, and Joseph Naufsinger (Nofziger), from France. Roswell Reynolds and family also came and settled near his father, John Reynolds. About the same time, says Roseborough, "old Mr. Eaton came out from Seneca county purchased a farm on the west bank of Bean Creek, about a mile south of where Johnson's mill was subsequently erected, laid out a portion of it into town lots, and called it Eatonburg. A few log houses were put up, and a small store started by one Montgomery Hooker Fitch, a half-breed Indian, who sold the first goods that were ever sold in German Township. One Hastings was, it is thought, the next merchant. Eatonburg was the first village in the township. There is but little of it now remaining, and what does remain looks shabby enough to warrant one in believing that it was built at least a century before Noah's Ark," stated J. W. Roseborough, writing of German Township in 1870. Another settler in 1837 was Benjamin Brown, who later became prominent in the township. He came from Vermont and settled on section 17. He was a son-in-law of John Reynolds.

In 1838, among the incoming settlers were John Wyse, James and Joel Smith and families, Christian Becknor (Rychener), Peter and Jacob Rupp and families and Jacob Deppler. Verity also recorded the following as among the immigrants of that year: Samuel B. Darby; Jacob G. Wilden (or Wildin) and family; Jonathan Rogers and family; James F. Rogers and family; Michael Gish; John Reid, and Henry Roth. Fleet's version is that James Rogers and wife came in 1842; Jonathan Rogers in 1846; and the Wilden family in 1842. Albert G. Fleet came in 1840, and became quite prominent in agricultural movements, being president of the county agricultural society for many years; therefore it is probable he was able to become very intimate with the farming families of his own township. His record is consequently here given first place. He stated that Joseph Sander and family, Hugh Fairfield and family, and Augustus Clair and family came in 1839; that Joseph Schad (Short), Fred Crouse (Krauss), Peter Weaver (Weber), and Jacob Leininger, with their families, came in 1840; that John Leininger and family came in 1841; that Peter Clopfenstein (Klopfenstein), and Anthony T. Moine and families, settled in 1842; that Joseph Rupp came in 1843; Joel Smucher (Schmucher) and family, in 1844; Moses Stutzman, Warren McCutcheon and family, Peter Grim and family, and A. Grim and family, in 1845.

Other recorders agree that the following named pioneers came into German Township, to settle therein, between 1840 and 1850: George Gasche, Jacob Lipe (Lupp), Samuel Ames, Peter Short, George Betts, John L. Betts, Jacob Vernier, George Vernier, J. A. Wolverton, J. P. Flory, Jacques Grisier, and many others.

Henry and John Lutes were both local preachers of the M. E. church. Both later took active and leading part in the affairs of the community.

The Johnsons carried on a profitable milling business, building a saw and grist mill on Bean Creek. Verity wrote:

"The first mill put up in German that was worth any great credit to the township, as an industry, was put up on the west bank of Bean Creek, where the State road crosses the creek upon section 7, running to West Unity. A grist and saw mill, run by the waters of Bean Creek, was put up by the two brothers, William and George Johnson, on lands bought by them as early as 1836. They were Englishmen. They commenced building the mills in 1841, and completed them in 1842, so as to saw and grind for the inhabitants. The industry was a good one, and the proprietors made themselves well off. Before the erection of this mill in German Township, the nearest mill was at Evansport, on Bean Creek, ten miles southwest; the next was at Medina and Canandaigua, Mich., some 25 miles north; and one at Defiance, Gilead and Maumee, on the Maumee. This forever after put a stop to long trips, to a large scope of country, and very much lightened the burdens of pioneer life.

The Johnsons carried on the milling business until about 1857, when George Johnson, one of the firm, died. The labor was assumed by the sole partner, William, and afterwards sold and transferred to Reverend Cook, who successfully handled the industry until the burning of the mills some time in the latter part of the '70s. The milling business there has never been revived, as competition is so strong at more favorable points as to make the industry unprofitable away from railroad centers."

Jonathan Barnes was always a leader in the township. The first election was held in his house, and he was the first resident of German Township to be honored by election to a county office. He became county commissioner, and filled the office with much credit until shortly before he died. Warren McCutcheon took his place for the unexpired portion of his term.

Samuel B. Darby was the first justice of the peace, and also the first school teacher. He was also the first postmaster in the county, stated J. W. Roseborough, the mail route being from Defiance to Michigan. He died in 1884, aged 77 years. He was also the first township clerk, and was sworn into office by "Long Bill" Jones, of Clinton, afterwards of Dover.

Jacob G. Wildin was "the most active and useful man of his time" in the township. He laid out the town of Burlington in 1839. He was the first merchant in Burlington. He erected a log building for a store-room, and catered especially to the needs of the incoming settlers, maintaining a good supply of goods such as the settlers would be likely to need. And in 1843, he built an ashery, nearby, or adjoining. "This store and ashery were just what the people needed, and Mr. Wildin was just the active, liberal, public-spirited man required. He sold the settlers what they needed, and took pay in work, ashes, deerskins, and anything else they had to sell. He owned land, and ran a blacksmith shop, by means of hired help. The men he sometimes had to work for him were so numerous as to resemble a small army. He built a saw-mill also, and without doubt materially aided the pioneers to prosperity. In the earliest days in German Township, the settlers were so poor that they wore wooden shoes, some had only

wooden knives and forks, with "a huge log, levelled on the top, for a table"; while their bed-ticks would be filled with dry leaves, and placed upon bedsteads made out of poles cut from the forest, with basswood bark for cords. But, stated Fleet, with the establishment of "Johnson's mills, and Wildin's ashery and store, the people became almost extravagant. Conrbread and wooden shoes were not sought for; a new era had commenced and we began to feel like shouting. The day began to dawn; our roads were getting good, and life was pleasant."

It was in boring for water, with which to supply the needs of his ashery, that Jacob Wildin and others became cognizant of the presence of natural gas in the township. His was probably the first well boring in the township, and Albert S. Fleet, who lived within a mile or so, describes the disastrous happenings that followed the boring thus:

"Sometime in 1843, or 1844, from scarcity of water, Mr. J. G. Wildin commenced digging a well, to get water to supply his ashery; after digging some forty feet in the blue clay, and no signs of water, he caused the well to be curbed with a substantial framework, or at least I thought so. He reached the hard-pan, as it is called, and at this point found some water, and a strong supply of gas. The water raised some inches in the bottom of the well, and the gas blowed profusely. The auger refused to take in the hard-pan, and consequently one hand could play it like a top. At this point of time, I visited the well, went to the bottom, saw a Mr. Beck turning the auger, and standing in the water half-leg deep, and the gas rushing up through the water, making a great bubbling. Feeling somewhat uneasy I ascended, and felt like keeping out of that place. The next morning, we heard something like a cannon, and soon heard that Mr. Wildin's well had blown up.....I visited the spot soon, and found the framework of the well in bad condition. Mr. Wildin was very badly burned in the face, and injured otherwise, Philander and Othello Church were somewhat injured; one was thrown on the top of the ashery, and Othello coming down lit on some fixings over the well, and escaped without injury."

The incident, as narrated by Verity, is as follows:

"Jacob G. Wildin.....when at a depth of forty feet left the well for the night. Before renewing their digging in the morning, they tested the well, by letting down a lighted candle; it went down safely until very near the bottom, when the candle ignited what was supposed to be gas, but no explosion followed; the flames gradually arose in the well until near the surface, when a terrible explosion took place, which was heard seven or eight miles distant. Several persons were injured, among them Mr. Wildin himself, who by the seriousness of the accident was compelled to retire from business. The well was allowed to fill up, and was never completed for use."

Jacob Wildin died in, about, 1864. He married Anna, daughter of Jacob Binder, the pioneer settler and minister.

While on the subject of wells, it may not be amiss to record here some other early borings, in German Township, as noted by Fleet, who, after describing the Wildin disaster, continued:

"Soon after, James Smith bored for water to the hard-pan; found

plenty of gas, but no water to any amount, and abandoned the well. Mr. Smith, passing the well with a light in the evening, ignited the gas, and it made a warm time until it was put out. After this, Solomon Rogers confined the gas in boxing, or tubing, and at evening would ignite it, for diversion. It would make a beautiful light, illuminating the town (Burlington) beautifully. Soon after this it became a common occurrence to get gas-wells with water, and without water; the strongest fountains were got with the least gas. Mr. Quillet got a very strong gas and water fountain. It would throw a stream of water and gravel as high as the tallest trees, and some stones that resembled stone coal. Mr. Schad struck gas very strong; it would boil a five-pail kettle full of water in fifteen minutes. It burned one time three weeks steady; and in case of sickness in his family, it being near his house, he did not burn any other light. On Christian Schad's place the gas was so strong that it made a blaze as large as a large brush-heap, and it made such a light that one could see to read a quarter of a mile from the well in the night. Joseph Clair struck the gas in force: it made lively times; threw stone and water 100 feet high; it threw one stone that fell several rods from the well, that weighed twenty-two pounds. Fountains, or fountain-wells, are quite common in the township at present (1870)."

The first marriages in German Township were: that of a daughter of John Reynolds to ——— Holt, in 1837, they being married by Erastus Crandall, J. P.; that of David Ely to a Miss Schafer, in the same year; and that of Ransom Reynolds to Perlona Crandall, on July 28, 1838, the ceremony being solemnized by Nathan Borton, a justice of the peace.

The first stores and businesses established in German Township were probably those of the town of Eatonburg (or Edinburgh, as one records the name), but as that town was only actively so for about four years—from 1838 to 1842—they have been overlooked. Michael Gish built and ran a tavern in Edinburgh; a saddler, named Aberight, had a harness shop in the town; there was a tailor shop, that of Mr. Case; and Milton Sawyer had a cabinet and carpenter's shop in that place.

The first English preachers in the township were Henry and John Lutes, and Joel Smith, the three being local preachers of the Methodist Episcopal Church. The first religious service conducted in the English language in German Township was that held in the house of John Reynolds, probably in 1837, Henry Lutes conducting the service. John Bowser was also a pioneer preacher; he belonged to the United Brethren Society, and was "a most devout and excellent man." The first religious meeting held in the township was, however, undoubtedly that held in Christian Lauber's house in the fall of 1835, presided over, as preacher, by Christian Beck, of the Mennonite Church.

Elizabeth Wyse, it seems, was the first white child born in German Township, her birth date being in October, of 1837; the second birth was that of Lorena Holt, on January 29, 1838.

The pioneer physician was I. K. Carpenter, who took up residence in Burlington in 1844. He "was a Thompsonian."

The first wagon shop was probably that established by Jacob Noffsinger; the first blacksmith, it is said, was John Reed, who was

set to work by Samuel B. Darby. The first shoemaker was Henry Roth.

The first postmaster was Samuel B. Darby. It was through his efforts that an office was established in May, 1839. It was named Elmira, and eleven years later was removed to the village of Burlington.

The First Township Election

German Township was orgainzed, as hereinbefore stated, on March 4, 1839, and in the following month the first election was held. The polling place was in the residence of Jonathan Barnes, on section 14, near Lauber Hill, and thirteen votes were cast. (In the election of the previous year, 1838, the settlers had to go all the way to the cabin of Isaac Tedrow, in Clinton Township, to cast their votes; and in 1837 even further, the polling place being in York Center). The first German Township election, in 1839, resulted in the following named settlers being elected to the respective township offices:

Trustees: Jonathan Barnes, Samuel Gibbeny, Amos Garrett.
Clerk: Samuel B. Darby.
Treasurer: Nathan Borton.
Overseers of Poor: D. Campbell, and Adam Borton.
Constables: Joseph A. Borton, and Adna Reynolds.
Supervisors: Thomas B. Walters, John Shaffer, and Hy Lutes.

Some historians have stated that the first election was held in 1840, but while the official township records do not give the date of the first election, they make it quite certain that the year in which the first election was held 1839, not 1840. The "Town Good of German Township" (which was saved for posterity from a pile of discarded justice records about twenty years ago, by Archbold's present mayor, August Ruihley), appears at first glance to be merely an inexpensive note book, such as would be used nowadays for penciled notes. It in reality was the original record book of the trustees of German Township. The first entry, under date of April 29, 1839, records the names of men elected to township offices at first annual election; and from that record the names given above were taken.

German Township is unique in one respect; no other township in the county has preserved its trustee records intact. The destruction of records has been due to various causes, chief among them being probably, fire, although many records have undoubtedly been lost by the indifference of some township clerks to records other than those of the present. The distinctive position of German Township in this respect, thanks to the timely recognition by the present mayor of Archbold of the historical value of the cheaply-bound but all-important original volume, is worthy of being perpetuated, by here naming all the trustees elected since the first board was constituted in 1839. The succession of trustees is as follows:

Jonathan Barnes, 1839, 1840, 1844, 1847 and 1848; Samuel Gibbeny, 1839 to 1842; Amos Garrett, 1839; Nathan Borton, 1840 and 1841; Dorsey Barnes, 1841; Peter Andre, 1841; Joel Smith, 1842 to 1844; John Mason, 1842; John Lutes, 1843, 1846, 1847, 1849, 1850; Nathan Borton, 1843; Henry Lutes, 1844-45; Peter Wyse,

1845-48; James F. Rogers, 1845-46, 1848; 1853-55, 1857-58, and 1860; George Ditto, 1849-50, 1855; Jacob Nofzinger 1849; Jonathan Rogers, 1850 and 1851; John Wyse, 1851-54, 1856; Jacob Feather, 1851-52; Warren McCutcheon, 1852; Anthony Moine, 1853-54, 1857-59, 1866-69; John Wolverton, 1855-56; Lewis Theobald, 1856; Christian Aeschliman, 1857-58; George R. Betts, 1859-62, 1866-67, 1870, 1872-81, 1884, and from 1886 to 1892; S. D. Dailey, 1859; Peter Short, 1860-62; Jacob Gaiman, 1861-62; A. Markley, 1863-64, 1877; Jacob Gasche, 1863-64; F. J. Beauclaire, 1863; Peter Bourquin, 1864; A. N. Cart, 1865; William Dickerson, 1865; Peter Grimm, 1865; John Baker, 1866; Wm. Sloan, 1867; C. Druhot, Jr., 1868-69; John Leininger, 1868-70, 1872-73, 1875-76; Jacob Vernier, 1870-71, 1872-75; Geo. Vernier, 1871; Jacob Bourquin, 1871; D. E. Clark, 1874; J. F. Beucler, 1875; John Haumesser, 1876; Martin Palmer, 1878-1887; Christian Gaiman, 1877; George Leininger, 1878; John Yaeger, 1879-80; Geo. Leininger, 1881; Hy Leininger, 1882 to 1884; Sylvanus Walters, 1882-83; Geo. Deihlman, 1885; Charles Bourquin, 1885; Martin Buehrer, 1886; John U. Funkhauser, 1887-95; Henry Grim, 1888-97; H. G. Britsch, 1893-1900; Henry Stamm, 1896-1905; F. Funkhouser, 1898-1902; Wm. Harsch, 1901-1907; Gideon D. Wyse, 1903; Jacob C. Leu, 1904-07, 1910-14; Christian Yoder, 1906-09; J. F. Steensen, 1908; Leonard Stine 1908-10; G. R. Shafer, 1908-10; Wm. A. Leininger, 1910-17; Lewis G. Moine, 1910-14; Ed. Crossgrove, 1915-20; F. A. Graf, 1915-17; Geo. S. Leininger, 1918-20; Jacob Maudley, 1918-20.

Samuel B. Darby and Jonathan Barnes were elected justices of the peace in May, 1840. Henry Bredt was township clerk for many years, and August Ruihley was for about fifteen years. The last-named has been justice of the peace from 1895 until the present (1920).

The frugal manner of life of the early inhabitants of German Township is seen in the public expenditures by township officers during the first year of its existence, the "Treasurer's Report," for the year ending March 1, 1841, recording a total expenditure during the period of $13.23. Another indication of the careful conservation of public funds is seen in the following notice, which was spread in full upon the minutes of the township trustees:

Lucas County, German Township.

To Joseph Borton, Constable of said Township: Greeting.

Whereas we, the undersigned Overseers of the Poor of the Township aforesaid, have received information that there has lately come into said township a certain poor and dissipated man named Horace Crandall, who is not a legal resident thereof, and will be likely to become a township charge, you are therefore commanded forthwith to warn said Horace Crandall to depart out of said township.....

Served by reading January 29, 1849.

DORSEY BARNES,
DILLON CAMPBELL,
Overseers of the Poor.

JOSEPH BORTON, Const.

That the township properly cared for those who were legitimate residents of the township, and had become destitute, is proved by the following, which was copied from the trustees' minutes:

Article of Agreement entered into this 10th day of March, A. D., 1852, between Jacob Fisher, of the first part; and John Wyse, Jacob Feather, and Warren McCutcheon as trustees of German Township, Fulton county, and their successors in office, of the second part, witnesseth: That the said Jacob Fisher agrees to support for the ensuing year, commencing on the 16th day of March, 1853, Mariah Hatt and Coonrad Hatt, paupers of the Township aforesaid, for the sum of Eighty Eight dollars ($88.00) and the said trustees agree to pay the sum aforesaid as follows: ten bushells of wheat, at 57½ cents per bushell, on demand; ten dollars in cash, on the 15th day of May, 1852, and seventy-two dollars and twenty-five cents at the expiration of the year, in cash; and said trustees agree to clothe said paupers, and pay bills of physician, also to find material to repair Clothes belonging to said paupers, if needed.

JACOB FISHER.

WARREN M'CUTCHEON,
JOHN WYSE,
Trustees.

Upon the township trustees' minutes also were spread the particulars of another instrument by which the trustees recorded dispositions made by them in the interest of the same poor family. The entry was entitled "An Endenture of Apprentisship," which

"Indenture of Apprenticeship, under date of March 18, 1850, bound the township trustees, of the first part; Franz Hatt, of the second part; and Henry Roth of the third part, as follows: "That the said Franz Hatt, aged twelve years.....hath and doth hereby bind himself, as an apprentis, unto the said Henry Roth, until the eighteenth day of February, 1859, to Labour in occupation of a farmer, and the said Franz Hatt, who is a child of Ann Maria Hatt, doth hereby consent with the said Henry Roth to faithfully serve him and correctly Demean himself during the term of his apprentisship; and the said Henry Roth doth hereby covenant with said John Lutes and George Ditto, Trustees of said township, and Franz Hatt, and each of them, that he will teach him the said occupation, and will provide him during said apprentisship with Meat, Loging, Medicine, Washing, Clothing, and all other necessarys suitable for an apprentis; and will teach him, or cause him to be taught to Read and Write, and so Much of Arithmetic as Will enable the Single Rule of three; and at the expiration of said term of service Will furnish the said Franz Hatt With a New bible, and Least two suits of Wearing Appearel, and one Hundred Dollars in cash."

The settlers were, mostly, of humble origin, and of very little means when they came into the township. They lived simple lives, had few wants, and for the most part were happy and contented in the hard work of clearing and cultivating their farms. They were, mostly, of kindly hospitable nature, and were ever ready to rally around one of their number who might, through the death of the bread-winner, or from other unavoidable cause, have become destitute.

But they were mostly people of upright life, commendable thrift, and a consistent endeavor to become useful citizens, and therefore could not countenance poverty that came by dissoluteness of habits, by laziness, or improvidence. The average settler was not very much richer, when he first came, than was James F. Rogers, who, in 1842, came to his log cabin, 16x18 feet, possessed, it is true of eighty acres of wild land, but of only $1.50 in cash. His life-story has been duplicated in that of more than one of the successful pioneers of German Township. He lived more than fifty years of his life in German Township, and at his death, in 1893, his biography was written by one who knew him for the greater part of his life. It appears that:

"James F., son of Jonathan and Martha (Haviland) Rogers, was born in 1814....In 1838, he purchased of one Nathan Dix, for the sum of $175, eighty acres of land, then in Lucas county but now in German Township, Fulton county, Ohio. In the fall of 1839, Mr. Rogers, A. S. Fleet, John Baker, one Gehring, and a McEaton, founder of Eatonburgh, better known as Edinburgh, all residents of Seneca county, came together in a wagon to German Township, where and when Mr. Rogers first saw the land he had purchased the previous year. After remaining a few weeks and doing some underbrushing on his land, he returned to Seneca county. In the autumn of 1840 he came again to German, and there erected on his new farm a neat little cabin of 16x18 feet, into which Mr. Albert S. Fleet, with his wife, moved soon after its erection. After the completion of the cabin, Mr. Rogers again returned to Seneca county." In early 1842, James F. Rogers married Eliza Crosson, of New York state, and both for the spring and summer of that year were in the service of Sylvanus Arnold, a wealthy farmer and merchant of Melmore, Seneca county, Ohio. "In the fall of that year (1842) they moved to German Township, and began housekeeping in the little cabin he had built in 1840. One George Blackman moved them to their little home. Their personal effects, all told, consisted of one cow; one chest, containing his clothing; a small trunk with his wife's apparel; a box with a meagre supply of household goods; and another with a part of a set of cooper's tools. These, with $1.50 in his pocket, and an indebtedness of $25.00, constituted the total invoice of his goods and chattels. Thus, without money or friends, with no improved land, in the deep unbroken wilderness, with wolves howling hideously about their lone cabin at night, without roads, churches, schoolhouses, mills, stores, or postoffices, did this plucky couple begin pioneer life in this township.....In the spring of 1843, Mr. Rogers was chosen overseer of the poor, a township trustee the next spring, and from that time up to almost the time of his death, he was almost constantly a public officer of some kind." He was a member of the Methodist Church at Elmira for more than forty years, and was an active church and Sunday-school worker until his death. He had twelve children, and was a man of very strong character. Smoked and chewed tobacco for thirty years, and at 45 years of age "was an abject slave to the habit." Then, "thoroughly convinced of the sinfulness of the habit, he was by God's help enabled to abandon its use instantaneously" and never again used it, "for which I am thankful for sustaining grace," he testified more than thirty years later.

Many incidents of Mr. Rogers' life were common to pioneer life in German Township. "When he came into the township, there were but about a dozen votes in the entire township.....Maumee was then the county seat, and many a weary trip thither did Mr. R. perform, in order to do jury service, or pay taxes.....One of the difficulties (of pioneer life) arose from distance of mills, and markets, and the absence or badness of roads. It was very often, he said, worth more than the market price of grain to get it to the mill and back again, or to deliver it at the market, owing to the distance and to the condition of the roads. At one time, he said, he carried a bushel of corn five miles to Bird's mill, and brought the meal home on his back, through the dense forest, and over innumerable logs. Pork used to be hauled by ox-teams to Maumee, and there sold for 1¼ cents per pound. Wheat, he said.....there.....sold for fifty cents a bushel, and this not infrequently the farmer had to take in trade. To reach

AT THE END OF THE SEASON.

Maumee from German, they had to go by way of Ottokee, Weir's tavern, Watkins, and Swanton, three full days being required to make the round trip. Ten cents was more difficult to get then than is a dollar now (1893), and yet, to purchase goods a dollar then had vastly less purchasing power than it has now.

One wonders how some of the pioneers managed to exist. They did so, presumably, only by the exercise of almost inconceivable thrift, and simpleness of life. The "Bird's Mill" referred to was probably the first erected in the township. It was situated in the northwestern corner, in territory which later formed part of Franklin Township. Fleet wrote:

"Mills were far away, with the exception of Mr. Bird's, in the northwest corner of German, and was taken with the territory from German to make Franklin; but the mill was the same, and never have we had a better one for good work than when Mr. Bird was miller himself. But the water failed in dry weather. Mr. Bird built his mill some time before the organization of the township."

Regarding pioneer conditions, in general, Fleet wrote: "Taking it all in all, there was about as much sunshine as shade in the pioneer life of German Township."

Burlington was the second town to be established, and until the coming of the railroad and the founding of Archbold, it was a prosperous and busy trading centre.

The Incoporated Village of Archbold

Archbold came into being with the coming of the "Air-Line" Railway, in 1855. Fleet asserts that it was originally named Archbald, "a compound word, composed of Arch and Bald, names of two engineers of the R. R." That spelling seems to be corroborated by the municipal records. The first volume of council records contains, upon one of its first pages, a copy of the petition, which eventually brought corporate powers to the community. The handwriting is not very regular, but the name as there written seems to be Archbald,

Farmers & Merchants Bank, Archbold.

not Archbold. Early printed references also, almost invariably follow the first spelling.

One of the principal founders of the town, and for many years one of its most active and responsible residents, was George Ditto. Fleet records the laying out of the first division by Heywood and Ditto, and the second addition by Wentzler, Schnetzler and Deppler.

The first ten years of the existence of Archbald (or bold), were so encouraging, that the responsible residents sought to obtain corporate powers for it in 1865. A petition, bearing date of December 23, 1865, was circulated, said petition reading as follows:

To the Commissioners of Fulton County, Ohio:

The undersigned citizens and inhabitants of the county of Fulton aforesaid, hereby respectfully ask your honorable body for an order authorizing the incorporation and organization of the following described territory, situate in the County of Fulton, and State of Ohio, to-wit: The northwest quarter and the southwest quarter of section thirty-three, and the northeast quarter, and the southeast quarter of

section thirty-two, all of said quarter-sections being in the Township of German, county and state aforesaid. Your petitioners ask

That said territory may be incorporated and organized as a village, to be called Archbald. A further description of said territory will be found in the plat hereto (annexed) attached. Your petitioners further represent that there are more than fifty qualified voters actually residing within the (limits) territory above described; and that the undersigned are a majority of the qualified voters, and actual residents thereof. We further respectfully inform you that Capt. Charles P. Schafer, Dr. S. Hubbard, and John B. Schnetzler are our authorized agents, and J. W. Roseborough our authorized attorney, to attend to and prosecute this our petition before your Honorable Board.

Very respectfully,

December 23, 1865.

George Ditto	John Pehkbone	Frederick Brandt
C. E. Adams	Conrad Wenzler	Valentine Theobald
David Myers	Abijail Hubbard	Julius Heupel
D. Burkholder	Julius Whitehorne	J. Vernier
John B. Schnetzler	H. C. Dye	Philip Thomas
Myron Whitehorne	Jean Thomas	Nick Weber
T. F. Lorimer	Stuart Hubbard	Levi Deitrich
Charles P. Schafer	D. S. Vier	S. H. Schaberg
Bredt Bros.	J. Broadbeck	Henry J. Williams
M. Wentzer	George Leininger	Peter Bourquin
Adam Gratt	Terrence Quinn	Jacob Schneider
Jacob Gilbert	H. J. Griesier	Jacob Berthoud
William Camp	F. Stotzer	P Seigle
Claude Druhot, Jr.	George Vernier, Jr.	Adam Imthurn
T. Huit	Philip Broadbeck	

The petition was granted on May 23, 1866, and

The First Election

was held on August 8, 1868. Fifty votes were cast, and Peter Bourquin, judge of election, declared that Frederick Stotzer received fifty votes for election to office of mayor; Julius Whitehorne thirty-one, for recorder; and that the following had a majority of votes for election to trusteeship: Jacob Vernier, John B. Schnetzler, John Broadbeck, John Sloan, and Philip Thomas. With the exception of John Sloan, all accepted office, and the first council meeting of the incorporated village of Archbald was held ten days later. Members present were: F. Stotzer, mayor; Jacob Vernier, J. C. Whitehorne, Philip Thomas and John Broadbeck, trustees. Myron Whitehorne was appointed trustee, in place of John Sloan. Peter Siegle was appointed marshal on August 29, 1866.

In the following year, 1867, John Sloan was elected mayor, receiving thirty-two of thirty-seven votes cast. He, however, was unable to complete his term his resignation on November 12 1867 making necessary another election. It was held on December 12, 1867, and John B. Schnetzler was elected to the office. Fortunately, the council records of Archbold are complete, and the

Mayoral Succession

can be given, from the year of incorporation. The tabulation is as follows:

1866, Frederick Stotzer; 1867, from April 5th to November 12, John Sloan; 1867, from December 12th to April 5, 1868, John B. Schnetzler; 1868 to 1873, John B. Schnetzler; April 7, 1873, John Haumesser; April, 1874 to April, 1876, John B. Schnetzler; April 1876 to April, 1879, Jacob Vernier; April, 1879 to April, 1880, John B. Schnetzler; April, 1880 to April, 1886, John R. Hoffmire; April, 1886, to September, 1892, George R. Betts; September, 1892 to April, 1894, John B. Schnetzler; April, 1894 to April, 1898, John F. Yeager; April, 1898 to January 2, 1906, John Theobald; January, 1906 to January, 1908, John U. Fauster; January, 1908 to January, 1910, Reuben E. Chase; January to June, 1910, Ed. L. Downer, who resigned, the remainder of his term being undertaken by H. G. Britsch, by authority of his office of president pro tem., of council; January, 1911 to January, 1912, John Monroe; January, 1912 to January, 1916, August Ruihley; January, 1916 to January, 1920, and from January, 1920, for two years.

The Archbold official list at present is constituted as follows: August, Ruihley, mayor; Andrew Shibler, treasurer; Hy Nofzinger, marshal; O. E. Lauber, clerk; G. J. Vernier, N. J. Rychener, G. Q. Morgan, Howard T. Schaff, Henry Fraas,, Dr. C. F. Murbach.

In the first year of its corporate existence, Archbold was stated to have had a population of about 350; and the business interests of the village were as follows

Five general merchandise stores, those of Jacob Berthoud, Peter Bourquin (who was also a dealer in staves), and Bredt Brothers, Chas. B. and Henry C., Henry Grisier and Schumacher (who also were insurance agents), and George Vernier; there were three shoemakers, or shoe dealers, Bredt Brothers, Brandt and Frederick, John Brodbeck, and N. Welfel; one hardware store, Jacob Vernier's; two jewelry stores, John R. Hoffmire and Herman Kersten; and many saloons, those of Clod Druhot Frank Druhot, Philip Druhot, Julius Houpel, Philip Thomas, George Vernier, Frederick Vernier. The physicians were S. Hubbard and Andrew Murbach, the former also conducting a drug store; John B. Schnetzler was postmaster, and was also a dealer in staves; Frederick Stotzer had a harness shop; Peter Grim and Peter Roth, in partnership, were brewers; Adam Imthurn was a tailor; Jacob Huit a furniture dealer; Washington G. Wilt was a painter; Coonrad Winsler had a sawmill on the south side of the railroad, and the brothers Whitehorne (Myron and Julius) on the north side; and there were two wagon-making establishments, Michael Weber's, and that of the Siegel brothers, Peter and John.

Archbold has always been an enterprising progressive town, and for it are claimed pioneer efforts in several phases of town planning and government. It is stated to have been the first incorporated place in the county to install an electric lighting system for public places; that it was the first to lay paved sidewalks. And German Township also claims the distinction of being the first township to lay a gravel road. The gravel road was laid south of Archbold in 1894, but as a matter of fact, almost simultaneously Swan Creek Township undertook similar road improvements.

PEOPLES BANK, ARCHBOLD.

The first public works project of corporate Archbold was that authorized by one of the first ordinances of the first council, said ordinance authorizing the construction of a sewer, on the east side of Defiance Street, and stipulating that "said sewers shall be made of good white, or Burr oak planks, two inches thick, and twenty inches wide .....and made one foot under the common level of the ground, even with the outer edge of the sidewalk." Apparently this sewer was an open one, and construction, seemingly was not at once begun, for it appears that the first sewer was not completed until March 31, 1873. That wooden sewer was dug up in 1896, when the sidewalks were prepared for paving.

Building of the Jail

It was ordained, on April 20, 1867, "that a building shall be built for the safe keeping of unruly characters." The specifications called for a building "two floors, 12x12 ft., 7 ft. high between floors, the lower to be made of 2 inch oak planks, the walls of 1 1-2x4 inch planks, spiked together, the foundation to be of oak timbers, 8 inches square, the building to have two window holes, firmly barred with iron, crossways, 10 inches square. Door 3x6 ft., made of 1 1-2 inch planks, double, hung with good strap hinges and good dead lock." A tax of $100 to build the jail was levied on June 7, 1867, and it was ordained, on June 8th that the jail "shall be built on Lot No. 28, in Hayward's Division, and be completed before July 3, 1867." Whether the jail was constructed in time for use in a possible Fourth of July requirement is not on record, but obviously it was built in that year, for on December 24, 1867, an order on the village treasury was given to Messrs. Shrenk and Richtor, for $150, 'in payment for building and the materials for jail," and the mayor was authorized to take $50 out of the Well fund, and apply it to the Jail fund.

The Water System

On June 1, 1867, the councilmen, in session resolved to levy a tax of $100 "to build a jail.....and a tax of $200, to build a public well for the use of the village," which evidently had grown sufficiently to need the supplementing of private water provisions by a municipal supply. At a council meeting of July 25, 1868, it was decided to get the public well dug by August 10th of that year, the well to be "six feet in diameter, inside to be bricked up, depth twenty feet." The contract for the digging of the town well was let to Felix Druhot but on August 4th he was released from his contract, and the digging of the well was apparently completed by the corporation.

By various provisions, the civic authorities have been able to always meet Archbold's demands for water, and it now has a fine system, the present municipal water plant consisting of two eight inch wells, 160 feet deep and a tower 110 feet to base of tank, which has capacity for 60,000 gallons, giving a pressure of 50 to 57 lbs. Two motor-driven pumps each throw fifty gallons a minute; there are 156 customers, and the Hersey meter system meets the recording needs. The plant was completed in 1915, at a cost of $22,000, George Britsch, president of the water board, putting in the first tap on May 21st of that year.

The plant is economically run, the power bill averaging $40 to $45, monthly.

Cemetery

Unfortunately the cemetery records have not been kept, and it is not possible therefore to review its history. It has been stated that the cemetery now in the guardianship of Archbold civic authorities was established in 1872. There is only one record in the early minutes of the council of Archbold, said record, of May 12, 1875, referring to the completion of "a contract with Joseph Smith, for land for a burial ground," the notation stating that the clerk had given "an order on twp. funds for $37.60 for said land." The cemetery situated about three-quarters of a mile south of Archbold is controlled by that municipal corporation, and the cemetery situated about one mile west of Burlington and known as the Johnson Cemetery is the property of German Township.

Town Hall, Archbold.

Archbold has some thriving industries, including the level factory, and the glove factory, which are both growing industries. Mainly, however, its prosperity and trading is due to its central position in a rich agricultural district. The farmers of German Township are characteristically loyal to one another, and do most of their buying in their own township.

To those public-spirited citizens of Archbold who have given so much of their time to civic responsibilities is due much credit. The offices are practically honorary, the remuneration being now not much more, proportionately, than in 1871, when, for instance, the council records noted the presentation of a claim, by John B. Schnetzler, of $4.50, the sum representing remuneration due to him for six months service as mayor, at fifty cents a month. At the same time Henry Bredt, town clerk, claimed a similar monthly stipend.

John B. Schnetzler served in mayoral office longer than had, or has,

any other fellow-townsman; and Henry Bredt was town clerk for many years. August Ruihley, who now is in his third term as mayor, has been identified with the town and township administrations for much more than a generation. In addition to his other offices, he was clerk of the Township Board of Education for seventeen years, and although he never attended law school, he prepared more legal documents it has been stated than any other man in the township.

In 1913, on Saturday night and Sunday morning of August 30 and 31st, Archbold was the scene of a disastrous fire, which laid a block in the business section in ruins, doing damage totalling to more than $150,000. Everything in the business block excepting the fireproof bank building was razed. The local fire-fighting equipment was totally inadequate to cope with the conflagration, and engine and hose companies came from Bryan, Wauseon, and Toledo. Regarding the local equipment one of the papers reported:

"Archbold's old Phoenix, purchased 35 years ago, was put to work at the cistern, near the opera house, and was throwing two streams of water at a good clip. At the most important moment, however, and just as the fire was being gotten under control, the engine baulked. The valves failing to work, it was abandoned, and bucket brigades formed until the other engines from the surrounding towns could be put to work."

Further, the paper reported:

"An old-fashioned hand pump, manned by volunteers, and a small size of hose, was all the equipment the village had. As the engine had not been tested out for several years, it was badly in need of repairs before rapid work could be done. As the pay of the engine-house keeper had been reduced he did not receive enough to make it worth his while to look over the engine."

The Archbold Fire Department has since been reorganized, and now, under Chief Henry Nofzinger, seems capable of handling and subduing all but very serious conflagrations, in Archbold, and the vicinity.

Archbold Public Library

A little space must be given to the recording of a commendable public service, yet in its infancy. On April 3, 1916, the Women's Reading Club, of Archbold, decided to organize a public library, "to promote the reading of good books and literature." A committee of five called on the mayor and council, and were readily granted permission to use one of the rooms of the Town Hall for library purposes. In various ways, by entertainments, socials, and such like means, the promoters raised for library purposes in the first year $414.57. On August 1st, the Women's Reading Club formed an independent organization, called the Archbold Library Association, and transferred to it all the property and funds collected for library purposes.

On October 11, 1916, the first quarterly meeting was held, and on February 22, 1917, an open reception and book shower was held. It brought to the library donations amounting to $157.43, and 680 books. On January 1, 1920, the library owned 4015 volumes, and had a further 500 volumes supplied annually by the state, which latter supply is changed yearly.

The growth of the Archbold Public Library has been creditable to its early workers, which include Mrs. Levy. Miss Sarah Levy is librarian, and Miss Emma Vernier assistant.

Population

In point of population of incorporated places of Fulton county, Archbold comes fourth, but it is nevertheless healthily developing. The federal census figures for 1860 are not available, but the official statistics for the last five decadal periods are: 1870, 373; 1880, 650; 1890, 780; 1900, 958; 1910, 1082; and 1920, 1125. This last figure is subject to correction, the "Preliminary Announcement of Population" being the only information yet released of the 1920 census.

The population statistics for German Township, including Archbold village, are as follows. 1870, 2479; 1880, 3033; 1890, 3103; 1900, 2989; 1910, 3088; 1920, 3137.

The Business Section of Archbold.

Schools

All historians; J. W. Roseborough (1870), Albert S. Fleet (1876), Verity (1888) and Mikesell 1905), agree that the first school in German Township was that established by Samuel B. Darby, in 1839. The schoolhouse was situated on the state road, one-half mile west of Burlington. It was a log house, with appropriate primitive furniture. S. B. Darby taught the winter term of 1839-40. Other pioneer teachers were Milton Zouver, Harriet Schnall, daughter of the pioneer John J. Schnall, of Dover, Miss Baker, Miss Shipman, Miss Mary Ann Prettyman, Miss Geesey and Miss Darby. Regarding the pioneer schools and school teachers, Judge Verity wrote:

"At the time, the wages of female teachers was from one to two dollars per week and board, while the wages of the men were from ten to fifteen dollars per month and board, and all usually had to teach 26 days for a month, and later 24 days for a month.

In the first building of school houses, when of logs, it was customary, if possible, to get slabs for seats, and if not to make them from split puncheon, smoothed upon the top with a broad-ax and holes bored, and legs put in with the ax, and the desks made in the same manner and placed against the wall of logs. They answered a very good purpose in those primitive times; and further, do not fool yourself into thinking that the teachers were no better, or as primitive, as the house in which they taught and the wages they got; many of them had splendid educations, acquired in the schools of the east."

Township trustee records show that in 1846, the township school districts were numbered up to 5, but only four had been organized. Prominent school directors then were Samuel Barr, John Leininger, Jacob Gaiman, Nicholas King, John Wyse, Christian Lauber, Peter Wyse, John King and Jacob Nofzinger. In 1853, there were ten school districts, and the representatives on the township Board of Education then were, respectively: Henry Lutes, Jacob Gasche, Wm. Albright, Albert S. Fleet, L. Markley, Christian Shantz, Phineas Vernier, Jacob Barr, S. O. Daily, and Christian Klopfenstein. On January 25, 1854, contract was placed with Solomon Rogers, "for building a schoolhouse (for district No. 2) 18x26, to furnish material and do the labor, for $160.00, furnished, with the exception of a little painting." In that year four more districts were organized, and the total enrollment was 537 scholars. There were seventeen schools in 1859, and 408 male scholars and 338 female. School property was then valued at $2360. Although the average value of a schoolhouse was then placed at not much more than $130, it would appear that the Board of Education of German Township was somewhat extravagant in establishing school districts in the late 'fifties. But the mode and manner of travel,, the state of the roads, and the difficulties of transportaion undoubtedly actuated the early school administrators to place simple schoolhouses wherever there were grouped a small number of children who could not attend other schools. However, as the state of the roads increased, so did the number of schools decrease, and the character of those used change. The log schoolhouse passed away, the cheap badly-ventilated frame buildings in many cases were abandoned, and substantial airy brick schoolhouses took their place. In 1875, Fleet states, the enumeration was 770 pupils, and that there were eleven school districts, conducted at a total expense of $3538.10.

Among school teachers in the 'sixties were Hattie E. Schnall, T. H. Brown, Catherine R. Gettings, G. W. Griesinger, Catherine Fairfield, Daniel R. Morrison, Ardella Fleet, J. B. Lutes, R. Raymond, J. C. Long, Armida Wilden, and Esther P. Clifton. And among the men who exerted a powerful influence in the standard of education in German Township in early decades were A. Daily, George R. Betts, Benjamin Brown, Hon. L. W. Brown, Julius Whitehorne, and John W. Roseborough. These men, and others, laid the basis of the excellent educational system now possible in the public schools. At present (1920) there are twelve one-room schoolhouses in German Township, the twelve, with equipment, being valued at $15,775. They served 347 scholars during 1919. In addition there is an eight-roomed schoolhouse, valued at $28,100, in Archbold, attended by about 190 scholars of elementary grades, and by sixty high school students. There is also a rural school at Elmira, and a consolidated school at Pettisville.

The board of education of the four districts are: German Township: Wm. H. Miller, president; O. C. Lauber, clerk; Wm. Leininger, Frank Winzeler, S. R. Shaffer, and Geo. S. Leininger, directors; Archbold Village: Dr. E. A. Murbach, president; H. J. Walters, clerk; P. C. Burkholder, A. G. Siegel, and David Snyder; Pettisville: W. J. Weber, president; Geo. McGuffin, clerk; A. J. Lantz, F. D. Lehman, Adam Britsch, directors; Elmira: S. D. Nofzinger, president; J. A. Rupp, clerk; Ed. Crossgrove, Chas. Siegel,, and W. A. Spengler, directors.

Further reference to German Township schools will be found elsewhere in this volume, in the general chapter regarding "The Schools, 1835-1920."

Churches

Undoubtedly, the first church society to be formed in German Township was that of the Mennonite Church. There was, in all probability, regular private worship by individual families in 1834, for such is one of the religious practices faithfully observed by devout people of the Mennonite Church, but the first gathering of settlers for religious worship of which there is record was in the fall of 1835, when services attended by Amish brethren were conducted in the log house of Christian Lauber, by Christian Beck, who later became a prominent minister and public worker in German Township.

There are several branches of the Mennonite Church in Fulton county, all off-shoots of the Amish body, which is the strongest church organization in German Township. It has always been so. Albert S. Fleet wrote, in 1876: "The Mennonite Church has the largest membership of any in this township today—membership, 265; church property, $2,500. They pay no salary to preachers. Preacher in charge, Nicholas King; subordinate ministers, Jacob Naufsinger, Christian Fryenbarger, Christian Stuckey, John Wyse; directors, Christian Wyse and Christian Schantz."

The Fulton county circuit, or diocese, of the Amish Mennonite Church is referred to in "The Mennonites of America," a somewhat recent publication, as follows:

"* * * another colony, composed mostly of immigrants from near Muhlhausen, was established in Fulton county. From 1834 to 1850 many families settled in what is now German township. Among the earliest settlers were Nicholas King, Jacob Binder, Christian Lauber, Christian Rupp, Henry and Jacob Roth, and John Gunday, who came in 1834. These were followed in 1835 by Peter Rupp, Christian Beck and others, and in the following years by those bearing the names Burkholder, Rivenaugh, Stutzman, Schmucker, Klopfenstein, Stuckey and Wyse. The congregation has since grown to large dimensions, and although it has within recent years furnished a number of recruits for the Egli branch of the church, it still contains a membership of about six hundred."

As at present constituted, the Fulton County Amish Mennonite Central Church has three places of worship, or church buildings. The largest building is in German Township. It is generally known as the Central A. M. Church, and it serves the largest group of Amish brethren. There is one church in the western part of Clinton Township, not far from the border line with German Township; and the third is

in reality not in Fulton county at all, being in Williams county, Brady Township, just across the line from German Township. The three churches are in the Fulton county diocese, of which Elias L. Frey has been bishop since March, 1908. The present ministers are Daniel J. Wyse, Henry Rychener, S. D. Griesier and Elias Rupp; and the present deacons are J. C. Frey and Daniel Sauder. The membership of the three churches is now almost nine hundred, and the property is all deeded to the Fulton County Amish Mennonite Central Church. It exercises a powerful influence for good, and the Mennonite Church has been one of the most distinctive and stable factors in the development and propsperity of German Township. Believing, as they do, in I. Tim., 2, 9; I. Peter., 3, 3; Rom., 12, 2; I. Cor., 11, 5, and similar scriptures, its members are distinctive in dress, and are unique in many religious observances that come into their general every-day life. The members of the Mennonite Church undoubtedly have earned an enviable reputation for honesty, thrift, hospitality and industriousness.

Unfortunately there is very little historical information presently before the compiler, by which he could review the history of the other branches of the Mennonite Church in German Township. The Egli, or Defenceless Mennonite branch is of long standing; and the New Mennonite Church had a membership of forty-five in 1875, when its church property was valued at $1,500. The minister in charge then was Benedict Meister, and the trustees were Jacob Bender and Christian Allion.

Methodist Episcopal Churches. Henry and John Lutes, who settled in German Township in 1837, were both local preachers of the Methodist Episcopal Church. So also was Joel Smith, who came in the next year. The first religious meeting conducted in English in German Township was that held in the log cabin of John Reynolds in 1837, Henry Lutz officiating. In that year, he was authorized to preach, and in 1838, at Defiance Joel Smith was licensed to preach. Traveling ministers of the M. E. Church were early in the township, among the first to come being Austin Coleman and McEnder Capp. The first quarterly meeting was held in German Township in 1837, and John Jones was presiding elder. "The first organized English church in the township" was, stated Fleet, the Methodist Episcopal, at Burlington. Another historian states that the M. E. Church at Burlington "was the first organized body of that faith in the township." It had thirty members at organization, and in 1876 had thirty-seven. Its property was then valued at $600. The trustees were James F. Rogers, J. W. Roseborough, Henry Pike and L. W. Brown. The M. E. Church at Archbold was established in the sixties, or early seventies. Prominent among the founders were J. C. Whitehorne and Frederick Stotzer. Soon after organization, a frame church was built at Stryker street Archbold, at a cost of $1,800, which was a commendable undertaking by the early members, their numbers being so few. In 1876 there were only ten members of that church, and the services were conducted by the Rev. John Poucher, of the Burlington church. He received a yearly salary of $100 from the Archbold body, and $150 from the Burlington church. Later, John Poucher, who was a capable and energetic minister, entered the milling business at West Unity. By birth an Englishman, he was much respected in German Township.

The Methodist Episcopal people at Archbold still use for their

services the frame church building originally erected; and it still stands on Stryker street. About twelve years ago it was remodelled. At present the Archbold church has about fifty members. The pastor is the Rev. F. Money, while Arthur Siegel is the active superintendent of a well-attended Sunday school.

In 1838, Lilley Bridge preached as a missionary of the United Brethren order. In 1875, the United Brethren society in German Township consisted of eighteen members, but they had no church, and no regular pastor.

Catholic Church. The Roman Catholic Church was worthily active in missionary work in the earliest pioneer days in Northwest Ohio. Missionary priests from Cincinnati came into the wild territory as it became settled, and served the religious needs of people of that faith wherever a few could gather together in a log cabin. To the Catholic people of German Township belongs the distinction of having erected the first building in the township that was set apart exclusively as a place of worship. The early records state that that church was situated near the center of the township. Eventually a larger church was built at Archbold, and it was the center of clerical activities of the Roman Catholic Church in Fulton and William counties for many years. In 1876, the Rev. H. Delbaer was pastor of the Archbold Church, and A. T. Moine and Peter Grim trustees. Church property was then valued at $4,000; the pastor's salary was $700; and the membership totalled 120. The Rev. Wm. J. Carroll, present pastor of the Archbold church has, very considerately, undertaken research in early church records, and thus has been enabled to furnish for this review, the following data:

"Archbold, Ohio, was the first of the Fulton county towns to have a resident pastor. This occurred in 1875. It was his duty to look after the needs of all the Catholic people living along the 'Air Line' (the N. Y. C. R. R.) from Swanton to Edgerton, the territory including Swanton, Delta, Wauseon, Archbold, Stryker and Bryan. The records of priests go back to 1850 and baptisms, marriages, burials, first communion, and of confirmation, to 1859. The following priests have served Archbold and missions: About 1850, Rev. Thibieres; 1858-65, Rev. A. Hoeffel; 1865-67, N. Kirch; 1867-69, P. Baker (who built the second church, a frame structure, used until 1906); 1869-70, I. Eyler and Monsignor Rappe; 1870-73, Charles Braschler; 1873-75, L. Vogt; 1875-77, H. (one record says Andrew) Delbaer, the first resident pastor. (He also started a parish school in his home. School was discontinued after his removal); 1877-81, N. S. Franche; 1881-82, F. Nunan; 1882-83, —— Primean; 1884-86, G. C. Schoenemann; 1886-98, F. H. Muehlenbeck; 1898-1920, P. H. Janssen; 1920, Wm. J. Carroll.

"Construction of a new church was begun in 1906, funds then on hand, or promised, totalling to $13,000. The architect was W. Dowling, of Toledo, and construction was placed in the responsibility of a Napoleon contractor, a Mr. McComb, who however was unable to complete the work, the contract being eventually taken over by a Mr. Herman, a Toledo contractor. Cornerstone was laid on July 29, 1906 by the Rev. F. Muehlenbeck, and work was finished at Easter time of 1907. The church was dedicated by the Rt. Rev. Bishop Koudelka on October 7, 1908. The cost of church building, exclusive of site, was $16,800. Other improvements to church and cemetery property were made dur-

ing Father Janssen's pastorate. During his many years at Archbold, he had endeared himself to his people, and was much respected in the town and township. On June 29, 1916, Father Janssen celebrated his Silver Jubilee of ordination to the priesthood. The day was made most happy for him by the people of Archbold, Catholic and non-Catholic alike. He left Archbold in February, 1920, for Landeck, Ohio."

His successor, the Rev. Wm. J. Carroll, is a very much younger man, but of noticeable energy. He is striving to quickly clear the church indebtedness, and to establish a parochial school in Archbold; and there are indications that his popularity with his congregation will gain him their cooperation in such endeavors. St. Peter's is one of the beautiful church edifices of Archbold, which is noted for the artistic splendor of its churches.

St. John's Reformed Church is another of the beautiful churches of Archbold; indeed it is claimed to be one of the finest, architecturally, in the county. It was built in 1914-15, during the pastorate of John J. Vogt. The architect was Abraham Bagley, and the dedicatory services were held during the week May 16th to 21st, 1915. The building committee included J. H. Miller, chairman and treasurer: R. S. Rodenhuis, secretary; David Snyder and George H. Rutz. The officers of the church at that time were: J. S. Schlatter, Daniel Snyder and Barnet B. Kutzli, trustees; Frank Winzler, Barnet B. Kutzli and Emil Spiess, deacons; J. J. Spiess, William Buehrer, and J. S. Schlatter, elders. The Archbold church was founded in 1852, and in 1876 had a membership of seventy-five. It then had church property valued at $2,325. The pastor then was John Neafoff, who received a salary of $400. The trustees were V. Theobald, M. Buerer and Jacob Zico.

The Evangelical Lutheran St. Martin's Church at Archbold, celebrated its fiftieth anniversary on June 25, 1916, when a historical review of its development during the period was read. The paper was as follows:

"Previous to the year 1866, Rev. K. Strauss, who resided near Okalona, Ohio., would occasionally come to Archbold, which at that time consisted of but a few houses, and conduct services for a number of Lutheran families who resided in and near Archbold. In the spring of 1866, a meeting was held for the purpose of organizing a Lutheran congregation. In a subsequent meeting a constitution was adopted. Thus the St. Martin's Lutheran Church came into existence. The charter members were: Karl Dimke, Jacob Huit, Gust. Dimke, John Brodbeck, Dan Burkholder, Peter Eva, Fr. Wetzel, Valentine Theobald, Fr. Brandt, Michael Weber and N. Waefel. The first officers were: N. Waefel, elder; Karl Dimke, secretary; and Jacob Huit, trustee and treasurer. In the same year, the newly-formed congregation erected a church building, the first church built in Archbold. In 1869, the congregation got its first resident pastor, the Rev. A. Beroset, who served to the year 1879. He was succeeded by Rev. C. Schleicher, who was pastor to the year 1883. Rev. C. Schink was then called. Rev. T. Kluepfel took charge of the congregation in August, 1886, but died three months later. Rev. J. Kramstroh filled the vacancy, serving until July, 1887, when the present pastor, then a theological student, was called."

A parsonage was bought in 1883, but it was inconveniently located, and eventually the congregation bought two lots on S. Defiance street,

on which site they caused to be built in 1896 the present parsonage, at a cost of $1,782. The original church building served for thirty-nine years, but in 1905 a new church was built, at a cost of $5,000. It was renovated and enlarged, in seating capacity, in 1916, and adequately meets the needs of the church. The church property is entirely free of debt, and the church is in a vigorous state. There are about 34 voting members and 101 communicant members.

The Apostolic Christian Church of Archbold, or the Imthurn Baptist Church as it is sometimes called, was organized about sixty-five years ago. In 1875, the church had an active organization, having a membership then of fifty-five, and owning a church building at Lauber Hill valued at $600. Andrew Brown was the minister, and Adam Imthurn was deacon. Adam Imthurn was the first man to be baptized into that church in Fulton county. The immersion took place in Bean Creek. He eventually became the strongest pillar of the church, devoting his life to its affairs, and preaching over a wide area. He was elder of the church for twenty-five or thirty years. He is now infirm, being eighty-seven years old, and others have taken up his work, but the history of that church will always be associated with Adam Imthurn. He is an honored resident of Archbold and now its oldest resident. He had a tailor shop on the west side of Defiance street before the incorporation of the village.

The early churches of German Township served societies of many denominations. The first church erected in Pettisville, on the Clinton side, was for the Baptist society. That must have been built before 1855. On the German side of Pettisville there were two churches in 1875, the Disciples in Christ and the German Reformed congregations having buildings. The Methodist Episcopal society also was active in the village at that time.

There were quite a number of religious societies that were comparatively strong in German Township in its early decades, but not strong enough to need separate church buildings for their meetings. Among these early societies were Holdermanite, Free Methodist and United Brethren organizations.

There were many with well-built substantial church buildings and among those standing in 1876 and not hereinbefore referred to were: the Lutheran brick church one mile north and 2 1-2 miles east of Archbold. It was valued at $4,000, and then had a membership of twenty-four, the Rev. R. Kraft being the minister, and Fred Kraus, Jacob Leininger and Fred Schultze being the trustees; and the New German Baptist church, which property was valued at $1,000, and was erected by a strong society which, in 1875, stood at about one hundred members, under Sebastian Lipe and Michael Tyler, ministers, who were paid no salaries. And through the decades of progress in German Township these many church organizations have been the stabilizing power. The Hon. O. B. Verity, in a "History of German Township," published in the Archbold "Herald" in March, 1888, wrote:

"It has been well said: 'As a tree is judged by the fruit it bears, so is the enlightenment of a people and their prosperity gauged by the extent with which religious instruction is carried on.' These churches have not been merely for the sake of ornament, but for the convenience of true Christian family worship, and in furtherance of the Gospel cause, qualities which go to make up a membership. The form of

church government in the most of them is congregational. They are policemen to arrest evil-doers, soldiers to quell riots, and courts to adjust difficulties. They are the visible monuments of a people's reverence for God, and a resort for young and old, to assist in beating back the tide of infidelity and the enemy of home."

Origin of Pettisville

Pettisville has to an extent suffered by its geographical position, situated as it is between and in close proximity to two larger towns, Archbold and Wauseon, the county seat. The fact that it is in two townships, Clinton and German, has also perhaps acted as a deterrent to general interest and natural growth. It nevertheless is a thriving village, and has several alert and enterprising residents.

Probably, to one John Dyer belongs the honor of having founded Pettisville. He orginally laid out a town there, and built the first house, locating it on the west side of Main Street, on the south side of the railroad track; after which Hope and Radcliffe bought a section on the south side and east side of Main Street, and laid out the town in 1857. It seems that the village "takes its name from one Mr. Pettis, who no doubt was a favorite man and a sub-contractor in grading the road under Benjamin Folsom, the builder of the railroad" stated Brown's "Gazetteer" for 1868, adding that "At this point it is said Mr. Pettis erected several shanties for his men, while grading the road bed."

The population of Pettisville in 1868 was estimated to be "about 500"; and the village then had one school and three church organizations, Methodist, Disciples and Lutheran, the Chronicler stating that "Steps have been taken towards erecting a church building this summer." There were three comparatively important industries in Pettisville in 1868, probably the most important being the Pettisville Woolen Mills, owned and managed by James McFellen, who manufactured "Satinets, Flannels, Jeans, Cassimeres, and other woolen goods." His mills were on Front Street. Then the Starr Flouring and Saw Mills, situated on the west side of Main Street, and owned by Edward G. Gowdy and Peter G. Gaiman, did good business. The third industry was that of M. Britton and Company, on Dame Street. They were oar and hand-spike makers, the partners in the enterprise being Mason Britton, T. C. Turner, and E. R. Phinney. Amos Broughton and Jas. M. Waddick were resident physicians, Dr. Waddick also being partner with Quincy Fairbanks in a general store business on Main Street. Grocers and storekeepers in the village were Frederick Barbier, Sereno Breeinard, Edward T. Graetz, Thomas Ratcliffe and the firm of Fairbanks and Waddick; James Killin conducted a millinery establishment, and was also a justice of the peace; a wagon-maker, Daniel Clark, had a shop on Summit Street; and there were three blacksmiths in the village, William Cline, William Dimke, and Gottlieb Laher; while hostelries were represented by Mrs. Luticia M. Sullinger, proprietress of the Mansion House, which was situated on the east side of Main Street, at the corner of Summit. Theo D. Fenton and his brother, Henry R., had a drug store on Main Street; John Narthein had a furniture shop on Dame Street; and Jacob Gaiman conducted a saloon on west side of Main. Julius A. Graetz was station agent

Albert S. Fleet, in 1876, described Pettisville thus: "A railroad town.....a place of some business. Of churches there are two—Disciples and German Reform; saloons, two; business places, seven; cabinet shops, one; physicians, two; intelligence office, one; one grist mill and one saw mill."

Some Pettisville history is embodied in the chapter on Clinton Township; while Pettisville school history is reviewed partly in the general chapter on "The Schools, 1835-1920", partly in the Clinton Township Chapter and early in this chapter. The development of the Pettisville Bank is reviewed in appropriate place in the financial chapter.

CHAPTER XIV

HISTORY OF AMBOY TOWNSHIP

Amboy is one of the pioneer townships of Fulton county. Its settlement began in 1833, and its early history and eventual development redound to the credit of the pioneer settlers; so much so, indeed, that descendants undoubtedly may be proud of the records of their ancestors. Yet, singularly enough, the ancestral homes have, with one exception, all passed out of the possession of the pioneer families of Amboy, in which noticeable particular it differs strikingly from other townships of Fulton county, which today is peopled, in unusually large proportion, by the descendants of the pioneer settlers; and in very many cases the descendants still till the land, now rich and desirable, that once was swamp or wilderness, and was won to fertility and agricultural production by the brow-sweat of their forebears. The lands of Jared Hoadly, the pioneer settler of Amboy, of the Steadman, Blain, Roop, Gilson, White, Bartlett, Hallett, La-Bounty, Purdy, Welch, Lewis, and Richey families, all worthy pioneers of Amboy Township, have passed to strangers. The only farm in the township that has not in transfer passed out of the family of the original settler is, it is believed, the Tripp Farm, on section sixteen. It was in 1838 that Norman N. Tripp entered wild land in that section, the property passing at his death to his son, Henry, whose widow still resides on and owns the estate, which is a rich one.

Part of Amboy Township in the first years of its settlement was in "the disputed territory", the Territory of Michigan and the State of Ohio claiming it, as has been elsewhere explained herein. Until the dispute was finally settled, all residents within the disputed strip had to recognize the authority of the Territory of Michigan, and consider themselves as being resident in Fairfield township, Lenawee county, and Territory of Michigan. The map made in 1834, one year before the organization of Lucas county, shows the territorial line. All parts of Amboy north of the "Fulton line" were accountable to Michigan, and until December, 1836, when the whole of the disputed strip became an integral part of Ohio, under the jurisdiction of Lucas county, the settlers were forced to transact their legal business and pay their taxes at the city of Adrian, county seat of Lenawee county.

The township of Amboy was organized on June 4, 1837, by taking all of town nine south, range four east, south of the Harris line, now the State line of Michigan, and all of fractional township ten south range four east, extending to the Fulton line, south. On March 1, 1841, Fulton Township was organized, Amboy losing to it all of town ten south, range four east, and in 1846, upon petition by Fulton Township, further territory, to wit: sections 31, 32, 33, 34, 35 and 36, being the south tier of sections of town nine south, range four east. Amboy thus was reduced to an area of 16,677 acres, or twenty-six full sections of land;

and since 1846 there has been no change in its boundaries. The map shows its position sufficiently to make further verbal description unnecessary.

In early days the territory was a favorite hunting ground for the Indians, who remained in the territory for several years after settlement by whites had begun. It has been stated that bears, panthers, wolves, and wild-cats abounded in the dense forests of Amboy; while the settlers found in the deer and wild turkeys welcome sources of food.

Ten Mile Creek runs through Amboy Township, emptying eventually into Maumee Bay. Smaller streams empty into Swan Creek. The land is mostly level, at the highest point being only 140 feet above the level of Lake Erie.

"BEARS, PANTHERS, WOLVES, AND WILDCATS ABOUNDED IN AMBOY."

SETTLEMENT

It was generally acknowledged among the pioneers that Jared Hoadly was the first to settle in the township. He entered his land in the month of July, 1833, and "late in the fall of that year" took up his abode on the land, which was in section seven. It is understood that he built a log cabin thereon in the early part of January, 1834.

Many other settlers are supposed also to have come into the township in the year 1833, among them David Steadman and his sons Alvah and Aaron, Frank O'Neil, Charles and William Blain, John and Joseph Roop, and Alfred Gilson.

In 1834 came John Blain; Jerry and David Duncan; Lorenzo Abbott; Seneca Corbin; Park White and his son David; Jonathan and Clark Gilson, James Hallett, John LaBounty; Samuel Purdy, Joseph Richey; Nathaniel and Harry Welch.

In 1835 Hiram Bartlett, Calvin Skinner, Cyrus Fisher, Horatio

Stevens and Caleb Remilie are stated to have come into Amboy and settled. And George Barnett is grouped with the incoming settlers of that year, as are also the Chapman, Griswold, and Koons families.

During the next five years many others came, including Job Duvall, Tunis and John Lewis, Charles Welch, Joseph Richey, William Irwin, Charles C. Tiney, Norman N. Tripp, and possibly others; while during the succeeding decade those who took up residence and began the clearing of land they had acquired were Morey S. Potter, Sullivan Johnson, Hezekiah Culver, Caleb Satterly, Thomas Cahoe, George Hackett, and his brother, and possibly, nay probably, many others. The activities of these men made Amboy quite a consequential township even before the organization of Fulton county. The village of Metamora was beginning its career at that time, and although its claims to consideration were not convincing there were some who thought, or perhaps hoped, the village might be chosen as the county seat of the new county.

Regarding the early settlers there is little biographical material on record. Jared Hoadly was one of the most influential men of Amboy in its first decades. He took directing part in most of the public affairs of the township, and came successfully through the first trying period, during which the settlers had to take their grain to Tecumseh, a journey of three or four days duration for an ox-team, for grinding. After many years of residence in Amboy, Mr. Hoadly moved into Michigan.

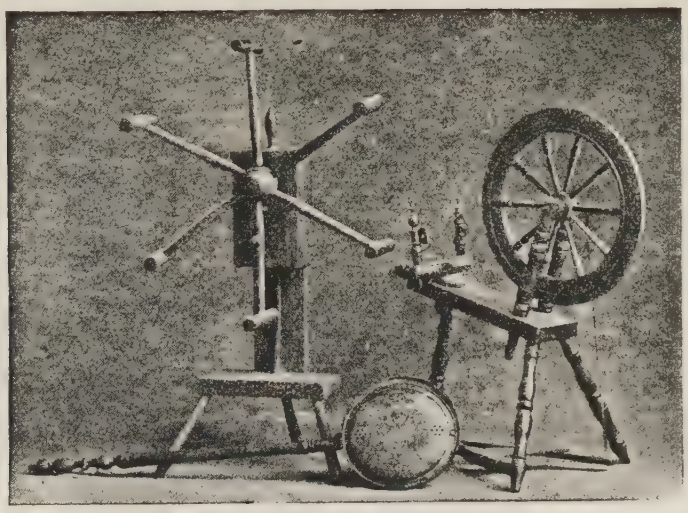
Alvah Steadman was, it is generally conceded, the second settler, closely followed by John and Joseph Roop. Alfred Gilson settled on section nineteen. The Blain family was a notable one among the pioneers of the first and second years. Charles and William, originally from Lodi, Onondaga county, New York, came via Toledo in the late fall of 1833. John Blain came with the Duncans in 1834. All were from Lodi, N. Y., and became worthy settlers in Amboy, the Blains raising large families and clearing the greater part of sections eighteen and nineteen. Sarah, mother of the Blain brothers died in Amboy Township in 1874, having reached the unusual age of one hundred and four years.

Joseph Roop, was an enterprising and industrious man; he was the first to make brick in the township, and he carried on that industry extensively for many years.

Frank O'Neil is looked upon as the pioneer settler within the limits of the village of Metamora, although the log cabin he erected there in 1833, or 1834, cannot be considered to have had any connection with, or to have been the commencement of, the establishment of that village, which really did not come into existence until fifteen years or more had passed. Frank O'Neil was the first white settler in the northeastern part of Amboy, and for many years had no near neighbors.

Hiram Bartlett was originally from Cooperstown, N. Y., but spent about nine years in Port Lawrence (Toledo) before settling in Amboy, in 1835. He died in 1875. His three daughters all married pioneers of Amboy Township. Elizabeth married Solomon Keeler, son of Samuel Keeler, who settled here in the same year as did Bartlett; Julia Ann married Norman H. Tripp, who first visited Amboy in 1838, stayed a short time, but did not permanently settle until 1847; and Hannah F., who became the wife of George Gale.

Horatio Stevens, who came at the same time as Calvin Skinner, Cyrus Fisher, and Caleb Remilie, all from Niagara County, New York, settled upon section twenty-nine, his farm later passing to Stephen Haughton. Joseph Richey and Marmaduke Bunting also settled in the township in about the same year. Lorenzo Abbott came through from Maumee, directed through the dense forest by a small pocket compass. He entered the land he chose, and lived upon it for about seven or eight years, selling, in 1843, to Sullivan Johnson. One record states that Sullivan Johnson settled in Amboy in 1838; another, that he came in 1843. He was a native of Vermont; came to Ohio when a young man; married Adelia Worden in Toledo; and soon thereafter came into Amboy Township. He interested himself much in public affairs, and at different times held practically every township office. For thirty-six years he was a justice of the peace, and for four years was sheriff of Fulton county. He died in Metamora in 1897, aged eight-three years.



ESSENTIALS OF THE PIONEER HOME.

One of the noted hunters of pioneer days in Amboy Township was David White, son of Park White. Eventually, as the settlers cleared the forest, and hunting and trapping became unprofitable in consequence, David White moved to wilder parts in northern Michigan.

Job Duvall (Davoll) settled upon section nine, and the family has for many decades been a prominent one in Amboy Township, He came originally from Erie County, N. Y., settling in Amboy, according to one chronicler, in 1845, and, by the rendering of another, between 1836 and 1840. He died in 1869, aged 54 years, generally respected, "having been one of the influential citizens of Amboy Township, of which he served as treasurer for four years." E. S. Davoll, now of Metamora, and president of the Home Savings Bank of that place, is of the same family.

Joseph Ritchey settled in Amboy in 1836, with his wife, Rebecca Young, and their children. He cleared eighty acres, and raised a

family of ten children. John W. Ritchey, his son, became one of the large landholders in Amboy Township, and eventually took up residence in Metamora, where from 1888 until the year of his death, 1900, he was a successful merchant.

Charles C. Tiney settled on section 30, in 1838, William Irwin, on section 14, and Joseph Ritchey on section seventeen.

Morey S. Potter, and Minerva, his wife, were the progenitors of many of that name who eventually became responsible and useful citizens in Fulton county. Calvin H. Potter, their son, who was in the first vigor of young manhood when the family came into the township in 1842, is said to have cut and brushed six miles of road, four rods wide, through heavy timber, and to have eventually himself cleared the greater part of his farm of one hundred acres. The family came from New York state.

"DAVID WHITE LEFT AMBOY FOR WILDER PARTS, WHEN HUNTING AND TRAPPING BECAME UNPROFITABLE."

METAMORA.

As before narrated, Frank O'Neil, in the 'thirties, built the first house, or log cabin, within what eventually became the boundaries of the village of Metamora, but no movement toward founding a village began for many years. Hezekiah Culver and Delbert Compton may be given the places of honor as the main founders of Metamora, although Jonathan Saunders was stated to have been one of the original proprietors of the village. It was in 1845 that the first impetus came in the erection then by Culver and Compton, or by Culver with the assistance of Compton, of a grist mill on land belonging to Culver. This enterprise, the first grist mill in the township, necessarily drew the

attention of the settlers to the locality, for formerly they had to take their grain to Tecumseh for grinding; and it was only a matter of a short time before it became a center of trading. Lewis S. Hackett, now of Pittsford, Michigan, but seventy years ago a resident in Metamora, wrote "Metamora History" in 1912, the review, which appeared in the Metamora "Record" of January 19, 1912, issue, reading:

"On the 10th of September, 1849, my father, mother, and three children, left Macedon, N. Y., for Ohio, going by canal and lake to Toledo, arriving the morning of the 20th, and was until noon getting to Sylvania by rail. We reached the home of my uncle, George Hackett, in Amboy Township, at 6 in the evening, having passed through the village of Metamora about 4 o'clock. The village at that time consisted of one grocery store, about 14x20 feet. H. Culver was proprietor, and he also owned a saw mill, and the land where the village stands. The grocery was about where the Home Savings Bank stands, and the mill about fifteen rods north and east, across the road, on the creek bank; and about the mill was a yard for logs, except two small plank houses where Russell Packard and Delbert Compton lived, and operated the saw mill for Culver. There was one house on the west side of the creek, where Augustus Ries now lives, owned and occupied by Dr. Pomeroy, and that is the only building left in the village that was there at that time. About all kinds of groceries were kept in the little grocery, and a barrel of whisky in the corner. H. Culver was just building a larger store on the corner, about 20x40 feet, 1½ stories high, where Pegg's Hardware is, and moved in that winter. In the fall of 1851 he built a hotel on the west side of the street (Bleyer's place). It was late in the fall when it was raised, and I remember it well, as I was there barefooted.....My brother John was also there, and he was about five years old (Lewis was about two years his senior). There were only five houses and five families there then, but soon afterwards a blacksmith's shop was built, an ashery was put in by Garry Vrooman, and several houses were built. In 1852, or 1853, a plank road was built from Toledo to Morenci, and on the same road now paralleled by the T. & W. electric line. In fact, this road, or very little if any of it, has not been changed from Morenci to Toledo. This plank road was a great thoroughfare from the West, as all products were sent to Toledo, and the merchandise of all kinds used west, as far as Morenci and Fayette passed through Metamora. Hotel business was good, and soon another was built. G. Vrooman built a new store on the north side of the road where the Metamora Hardware now stands..... For several years before the electric road was built, it (Metamora) did not improve very fast. Metamora has had several losses by fire, but each time it has seemed to be a benefit to the village, for larger and better buildings were put up to replace the ones burned. Since the T. & W. was built, the village has steadily improved, and today is a very prosperous and beautiful place, surrounded by good farms, and as good enterprising citizens as any place in Ohio, or Michigan, I believe. Most, if not all, of the older class that started in Amboy Township have passed away.....L. H. Clendenin is the oldest person in Amboy Township, living on the same farm that he did at the time (they first settled) and he at the time was twelve years old. Horace Tredway was another schoolmate of mine. He still lives on and

owns the old home, but he is just over the county line, and not really a citizen of Amboy Township."

The grist mill owned by Hezekiah Culver eventually was acquired by Eli Bunting, who ran it for many years.

William Bailey is stated to have been the pioneer physician of Metamora. He settled near the German Church, about two miles to the westward of the village. And Dr. Pomeroy, who actually lived in the village, was early in practice, and at the time of the coming of Lewis H. Hackett was then an old man. After a few years of practice in Metamora, he died and was there buried. Jonathan Saunders, one of the proprietors of the village, lived there until his death. His son, Clark, established himself as a druggist in Metamora, and the Saunders family still has good business interests in Metamora.

How Metamora came to be so named is not on record. For very many years it was the only post-office in the township; in fact until 1880, when Siney post-office was established to serve the western part of Amboy. The post-office for the eastern half of Amboy, and the first to be established was situated about one-half mile west of Metamora, stated Lewis S. Hackett. Continuing, he gives the information that:

"Morey S. Potter was postmaster. This office supplied mail to patrons for several miles away, in all direction. We (the Hackett family) lived six miles southwest, and each and every Saturday that was my job to go and get the Albany 'Argus,' a paper printed in Albany, N. Y. There were not many letters passing in the mails in those days, for the postage on a letter was twenty-five cents. The Toledo 'Blade' was then published in Toledo, but very few copies came to our post-office."

Metamora in 1858 was probably as widely known throughout the county as it is today; and it seems to have been quite accessible, if one may draw inferences from a circular printed in that year. The interesting paper was discovered in 1913, while A. L. Guthrie was taking out a window in the farmhouse of W. S. Edgar, near Seward; and printed on it was the following invitation:

Your company is solicited to attend a Ball at the Fulton House, Metamora, kept by H. Culver, on Friday evening, October 8th, 1858.

COMMITTEE

Wm. Warren, Sylvania; A. Mace, Morenci; A. Randolph, Morenci; J. R. Newcomer, Ottokee; E. Stow, Ottokee; A. J. Allman, Centerville; J. Gample, Centerville; George Nort, Delta; James Packard, Madison; L. Mason, Fairfield; Dr. Grandee, Fairfield; R. Carter, Ogden; M. Richardson, Royalton; G. F. North, Blissfield; Dr. Hill, Royalton; Jas. Vaughn, Ai; E. S. Blake, Ai.

ROOM MANAGERS

W. D. McCan, J. H. Guernsey, J. D. Gistwite.

Music by Hancock's Quadrille Band. Tickets, $2.00."

Industrial Metamora, in 1888, embraced: "One saw mill; one hotel, kept by Peter Holben; four dry goods stores, owned by James Garnsey, Edward Duvall, and Fred Prickett; one barber shop." A large cheese factory was also in process of establishment. And the physicians then were Drs. S. M. Clark, Foster, Tompkins, and Markham.

As now constituted, Metamora is a thriving, self-contained, town; has an elevator and a cement block factory; two good banks, which are referred to in the general chapter on Fulton county banking; two churches; an excellent high school; some up-to-date and completely-stocked stores; a live newspaper; a hotel; and two restaurants. It is satisfactorily served by the Toledo and Western electric railway.

The village of Metamora was granted corporate powers on June 1, 1893. Its first mayor was James H. Garnsey, George F. Frasch acting at first as clerk, but his duties being soon assumed by F. A. Seeley, who during the last generation has been one of the prominent residents of Metamora. J. Ott, Jr., was elected mayor in 1899; Carson Garnsey, in 1900; H. D. Robinson, in 1901; E. S. Davoll, in 1904; S. A. Morse, in 1908; H. H. Tredway, in 1914; S. A. Morse, in 1916; J. C. Smith, in 1920. H. H. Tredway became village clerk in 1904;

THE WIDE THOROUGHFARES OF METAMORA.

J. J. Malone, in 1908; Fred V. Myers, in 1914; and Charles J. Malone in 1920.

There are no township records earlier than the current books now in the possession of the present township clerk, and the earlier records cannot be traced; consequently it is not possible to more than state the names of the present township trustees, L. M. Ries, Jacob Schug and Nick Mossing, and present clerk, A. D. Franklin, and to record the information that the first township election was held in 1837, in the log house of David Duncan.

One of the early industries of the township was the cheese factory established on section seven, in 1868, by Benjamin Davis, of Royalton. He conducted it for very many years, as the Amboy Cheese Factory, and did a flourishing business, as was to be expected, situated as it was in a growing agricultural district which had practically no other convenient way of marketing its milk product. Conditions have radically changed, since the establishment of the huge evaporated milk plants in and near Fulton county.

Schools of Amboy Township

Early data regarding the Amboy Township schools is not available from official records, all early records having been destroyed, or lost, but Lewis S. Hackett, who passed his boyhood and early manhood years in Amboy, and has maintained a close interest with Metamora and the township, has contributed the following "Recollections of the Schools of Amboy Township seventy years ago." He writes:

"There were only four schoolhouses in Amboy Township in the fall of 1849: one near Metamora; one on a farm now owned by George Davoll, and called Davoll School; one on the town line west, near Santee Corners; and one on east and west road, west of Bartlett's Corners, at the intersection of an angling road from Metamora, s. w. to said east and west road. That angling road now only follows where it then did for about forty rods of the six miles of angling road, i. e., for forty rods north of the Petter Berry farm.

"The schoolhouses were of log, and very crude at that. I shall never forget my first day at school. We got to my uncle's, George Hackett, on 20th of September, and the next day, being the last day of school, in the Bartlett School, I, being company, was invited to go with my two cousins, Samuel and Ann Hackett. Miss Melvina Howe was teacher. She had one small table, about 20x36 inches, having one small drawer. The teacher had a common splint-bottomed chair for herself, but the scholars sat on split-log benches that had no back. There were no desks.

"In the fall and winter of 1850-51, a new schoolhouse was built about one-half mile west of this one. It was of frame. Margaret Fullerton was the first summer teacher, and Naaman Merrill followed in the winter. The school books used at that time were: Sander's Readers, Elementary Spelling; Adams and Colburn's Arithmetic; Mitchell's Geography; and Brown's Grammar.

"There was another new schoolhouse built in the Davoll district, about a year later; and also a frame schoolhouse about one-half mile east of Metamora."

In about 1861, or 1862, Lewis S. Hackett commenced teaching in a schoolhouse situated on the town line between Amboy and Fulton townships. That served the children of both townships and the district was known as the Everett, or Sipe, district. Regarding that experience, Mr. Hackett writes:

"There was not much difference in wages, then and now. I taught 22 days for a month, and earned $56.00 in four months, or $14.00 a month. The following winter I got $16.00 a month for five months of teaching in the same school. What I lacked in cash for my work was made up to me in my board, as I boarded around the district, as all the teachers did at that time.

"At that time (1862) there were seven schoolhouses in Amboy Township. It was quite a habit to have spelling schools, old fashioned. We would go for miles to one; would choose sides and spell, then spell down, the one last standing being the winner."

In 1888, there were five school districts in Amboy Township, sections 4, 7, 16, 26 and 29 each having a schoolhouse; and in addition there was a good village school at Metamora.

As re-districted in recent years, the schools of Amboy Township

include: four one-room elementary schools, valued at $3,700, and affording education to about seventy-two children for a term of 32 weeks; a special rural district, known as Amboy-Richfield, to which go about eighteen children of Amboy Township; another fractional school district, the Amboy-Fulton, which enrolls about seventeen Amboy scholars; and the Metamora school which is valued at $30,000. It has four rooms for elementary grades, and four for high; and for the 1919 session one hundred and sixty-six pupils were enrolled, fifty-seven of them for the high school course. C. A. Hudson, district superintendent is a capable educator. In addition, there is the well-attended parochial school at Caragher.

Churches of Amboy

In 1850, stated Lewis S. Hackett, "there was only one church, or meeting house, in our vicinity, none in Amboy Township; but on the

Metamora High School.

town line between Amboy and Royalton there was a log church, on the Royalton side. It was many years after that that there was one in Metamora."

The Methodists were active in Amboy from its early days. The Methodist church referred to by Mr. Hackett as being on the Amboy-Royalton line is probably that to which Historian Verity refers. The last-named authority records the building of a church in that locality in 1867. That probably was a frame edifice built to take the place of the orginal log meeting house.

The Metamora M. E. Church history began in 1854, when a Methodist society was organized, the members of which worshipped in a house situated about one mile to the eastward of Metamora. The circuit was composed of Sylvania, Richfield Centre, Metamora, Tiney, and the Red Schoolhouse, near Lyons. John R. Colgan and Henry Boyers were the visiting ministers, one living in Sylvania, and the other in Swanton. Mr. and Mrs. Reuben Tredway, Mr. and Mrs.

Simon Ford, Mr. and Mrs. Hiram Parker, Mrs. Winchell, and Mr. and Mrs. Kellogg composed the original membership. The first church building was erected in 1866, in Metamora. That eventually was displaced by the present church, which was built in 1894, at a cost of $4,000. D. B. Nelson is the present pastor. He succeeded G. A. Edmunds.

The Reformed Church of Zion was built by German residents in 1870 on section nine. The most prominent pioneer member was Peter Kohl.

The United Brethren society at Metamora built a church in 1874, and for many years had a strong membership. The Congregationalists have also within recent years been active in the village, and its Sunday school is a thriving one. Then there is of course the Catholic Church at Caragher.

The Hamlet and Parish of Caragher

The development of the little village of Caragher is of course closely identified with the history of the Catholic Church of that place, a review of which has been written for this work by the present pastor, the Rev. H. P. Waechter. The review reads, in part:

"The Catholic Church of St. Mary's Assumption, at Caragher, Ohio is situated three miles south of Metamora, and twenty miles due west of Toledo, on the Central Avenue road.

"Members of the Catholic faith began to settle in Amboy Township as early as 1850.....For a few years divine services were held in the homes.....by priests, who came from Toledo, Maumee and Providence, at irregular intervals. The first mass in this section was said in 1853, byRev.F.Foley, in the home of Mr. Forester, about six miles west of where the church now stands.

"When the Rev. Barbier was appointed first resident pastor of Six Mile Woods in 1863, he was also given charge of the Catholics in Amboy Township.....Eventually a movement was started to build a church and organize a regular parish. Accordingly two acres of land were donated in 1867 by Jacob Berrens, for church and cemetery purposes, where the present hamlet of Caragher now lies.....In the same year a church (frame) 45 x 28 feet, of simple design, was erected, but lack of funds prevented its completion until 1869, when it was dedicated by the Rt. Rev. Rapp, Bishop of Cleveland, O. The parish continued to be a mission of Six Mile Woods until 1872. For the next three years, it was served by the Jesuit Fathers from Toledo. When the Rev. J. G. Vogt was appointed pastor of Six Mile Woods in 1875, he was given charge of Caragher parish, the Catholic families of which had by that time increased to thirty-five, and they petitioned the Bishop for permission to build a parochial residence.....A frame house of humble appointments was built in the autumn of 1876, and it has ever since served as parochial residence.

"With a parish of fifty-six families, and enjoying a constant growth, the people petitioned the Bishop to send them a resident priest..... The bishop finally appointed the Rev. F. Gauthier, D. D.....to take office on February 8, 1877.....Bishop Gilmore visited the parish in 1879 and consecrated the cemetery. Soon it was necessary to enlarge the church, by building galleries along both sides. Father

Gauthier ended his pastorate in December, 1880, and for the next few years, the Revs. Kelly, Mueller, and Norman had charge, successively, of the parish. On August 1, 1883, the Rev. Thomas McGuire was appointed.....In 1888.....Msgr. Boff laid the corner-stone of the new church.....and first services were held Feb. 17, 1890..... and on November 8th, the church was solemnly dedicated.

"The church is a brick building of graceful lines, with stone trimmings 80x40 feet, and has a steeple 90 feet high. In 1892, the parish again became a mission of Six Mile Woods, but a year later, the Rev. John Schaffeld was appointed pastor of St. Mary's, and remained until 1901, during his pastorate he entirely cleared the church of debt; had the church refurnished; a pipe organ installed; and other church furnishings were placed in position. He was succeeded by Rev. Tom Fahey. A year later, the Rev. W. S. Agle was appointed. He at once began to enlarge and to beautify the parish cemetery. In 1902 the old frame church was remodelled and converted into a parish hall.... With an ever-growing parish, it became necessary, in 1906, to enlarge the brick church, at a cost of nearly $10,000.....It now has a length of 127 feet.

"Father Agle next sought to establish a parochial school, and..... accordingly a frame dwelling was built in the rear of the church in the fall of 1909.....to serve as a teacher's residence.....It cost less than $2,000. The parish hall was fitted up as a school building, and on Feb. 1, 1910, the parochial school opened with fifty children in attendance. The school has eight full grades, and is taught by the Sisters of St. Dominic. Father Agles' pastorate ended November 27, 1912. He was succeeded by Rev. J. A. Christ. Two years later, the Rev. Albert Zemp was appointed. By this time, the school had outgrown its quarters, and at a meeting of the parish in January, 1915, it was decided to proceed with the erection of a modern brick school building. .....A substantial concrete and brick building was erected.....and solemnly dedicated June 8, 1916, by Bishop Schrembs, D. D. An electric lighting plant was installed, of power adequate to supply all the buildings of the parish with light. The school, electric light plant, and other minor improvements cost about $18,000."

Father Waechter became resident pastor in 1917, and at that time the parish was heavily in debt. Chiefly by his efforts and persuasive influence, however, the debt was wholly cleared before the end of last year. The parish now numbers 140 families, and about 110 pupils attend the parochial school. Undoubtedly, St. Mary's Parish, and the hamlet of Caragher, has grown sturdily.

Societies

Apart from the argicultural organizations, there appears to be only one society in Amboy Township, that at Metamora which continues the Sanders Tent, No. 421, of the Knights of Maccabees, organized on January 22, 1900, with the following named Metamora residents as first officers: Everett C. Saunders, com.; H. A. Barrett, lt. com.; John M. Horton, rec. kpr.; Peter Biehl, F. K.; George F. Frasch, chaplain; Fred H. Mobus, mat. a.; Chas. W. Henrick, sent.; Orrine E. Henrick, picket. The chief officers for 1920 are: Justin

Bartlett, com.; Melvin Luke, lt. com.; U. D. Saunders, r. k.; Peter Myers, chaplain.

Population

Previous to the last three decadal census tabulations, the population of Metamora was not made public separately from the figures for Amboy Township, but for these three census years, the figures given for Metamora were: 1900, 263; 1910, 475; 1920, 484. The statistic for Amboy Township for the last fifty years are: 1870, 1089; 1880, 1264; 1890, 1450; 1900, 1423; 1910, 1590; and 1920, 1522. These figures are inclusive of Metamora population, and the 1920 figures are subject to correction, being the "Preliminary Announcement of Population" released by the Bureau of the Census, prior to verification of totals.

CHAPTER XV

HISTORY OF ROYALTON TOWNSHIP

Royalton Township has a distinctive place in the history of Fulton county; it was the part of the county to which Eli Phillips, who is claimed to have been the pioneer settler, came, in 1833. And it also has place, although under another name, in Michigan annals, for its settlers seem to have taken a more active part than did the settlers of adjoining townships in the boundary dispute between the Territory of Michigan and the State of Ohio. The boundary dispute, which almost brought the Territory of Michigan and the State of Ohio into actual bloody conflict, and did bring the military forces of those two contending states into what might be termed a state of warlike demonstration, even so far as to cause bullets to fly through the air upon one occasion, will not be further referred to in this chapter, for it has been extensively reviewed in an earlier chapter of this work. Suffice it here to give a reason for the apparent antipathy shown by some of the early settlers of Royalton, and other northern townships of the present Fulton county to the authority of the state of Ohio. The settlement of Lenawee county, Michigan, began in 1824, the first settlement upon its soil being in the northwestern corner, in the valley of the Raisin. In 1826, the southern half of Lenawee county, which then was one township, named Fairfield, and formerly Logan, was subdivided into three townships, which from east to west were Fairfield, Seneca, and Medina, these townships embracing in their respective jurisdictions the territory of what is now Fulton county down to the line commonly known as the "Fulton Line." Settlement of Lenawee County, Michigan, proceeded rapidly, and as the choice locations of the northern part of the county were taken up, the settlers travelled further south, entering, from 1832 onward to 1835, their land at the Land Office at Monroe, Michigan. As the territory was recognized at the Federal Land Office as being in the Michigan survey, the settlers were hardly to be blamed for refusing to recognize the right of Wood county, Ohio, and, in 1835, Lucas county, Ohio, to levy taxes, for the State of Ohio. They considered themselves to be in Lenawee county, Michigan, and did the greater part of their legal and other business at Adrian, county seat of Lenawee county, Michigan, which town was much more accessible than Maumee. The majority of the early settlers came in from the north, and some had had residence for many years in more northerly parts of Michigan. Also, the Territory of Michigan was literally in possession, and could enforce its authority, whereas the State of Ohio had no official grip of the disputed strip. Verity recorded that "Wood county, at a very early period, much earlier than 1835, attempted to extend the law of Ohio over this strip to the county of Williams, and claimed it to be in that county. They levied taxes (there being some settlers in the east part, near

(Toledo) but the people did not recognize the act and authority of Wood county, and refused to pay the taxes. It was in this township that some of the scenes of the Ohio and Michigan war were enacted. When, in the beginning of 1835, Ohio undertook to enforce jurisdiction along the whole northern border to the Harris line.....they (the Michigan authorities) 'dared' the Ohio militia to enter the disputed ground, and 'welcomed them to hospitable graves.'" Eli Phillips was at that time, apparently, in authority in that part of the territory being lieutenant-colonel of militia, under Major-General J. W. Brown, of Michigan; and it seems that Col. Phillips "fought in the only battle of the Toledo war, in which no one was killed, and only a few very badly scared." That probably was the incident when, after the first warlike demonstration of the state armies had apparently ended in a truce, the Ohio boundary commissioners, properly escorted, entered the territory in dispute, and while pursuing the survey were set upon by "banditti" of Michigan, who actually fired many shots and took as prisoners almost all of the escort, the commissioners escaping. Verity says:

"Early in April, Governor Lucas (of Ohio) sent a surveying party to run the Harris line. The commissioners had commenced their work at the northwest corner of the State. General Brown had sent scouts to watch their operations, and when running the line, to report immediately when the surveying pary had reached the county of Lenawee. The under-sheriff of that county, with a warrant and posse, made his appearance to arrest them. About ten miles east of Morenci, along the line, in Royalton Township, he came upon the trail of the commissioners.....and arrested nine of the party, but the commissioners and Surveyor Dodge made a timely escape, and ran with all their might until they got off the disputed territory."

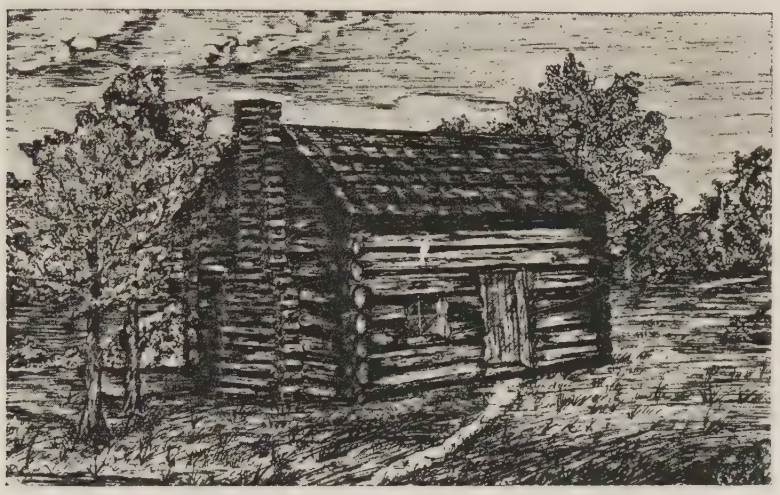
Eli Phillips undoubtedly did not settle in Royalton Township until June 10, 1833, although it seems likely that he entered his land at the Land Office in 1832. Further information regarding his coming is embodied in the fourth chapter of this volume. He and his wife came from "the vicinity of" Adrian, and settled on sections 10 and 11, town 9 south, range 3 east. If their home was not actually on the "outskirts of civilization," their log cabin certainly was much isolated, for some time, for to the south there were no settlers nearer than the Maumee River, and to the west, it was "an unbroken wilderness for at least seventy miles."

Colonel Eli Phillips gained an honorable record as a useful and influential citizen of Fulton county, taking active part in much of the pioneer building. He, and his brother-in-law, Musgrove Evans, were the first settlers upon the soil of what was afterwards Lenawee county." They settled at Tecumseh, in June, 1824, coming from Pennsylvania. Evans was a Quaker. They built a log house twenty feet square, "floor bare earth, the roof elm bark," and during the winter of 1824 and 1825, it furnished shelter for sixteen persons. Like conditions, excepting as to number of occupants, Eli Phillips probably experienced nine years later, when he and his wife came into the wilderness, and began the settlement of what is now Fulton county. He was then about twenty-seven years old, and he lived the remainder of his long life in Fulton county, attaining octogenarian age. Judge Verity wrote of him.

"He stands here today (1887) almost the only monument of the

past—the first of all the settlers—of over a half century crowded with significant history. He recalls a Jefferson, a Madison, a Monroe, and a long line of the same worthies up to the present time. He was before steamboats, before railroads, before telegraph or telephone. Thus, when closes his life's career, which has been a busy one, it will be thoroughly interwoven with the present and future of Fulton county."

Eli Phillips, the pioneer, did not however remain for long without neighbors. It is said that William (Uncle Billy) Smith settled in the township in the same year; indeed very soon after Eli Phillips came. Smith was a bachelor, one record stating that he came "with, or soon after" Eli Phillips. Butler Richardson is generally thought to have been the second pioneer to settle in Royalton. He came in 1834, and thereafter, until 1840, there was a steady influx of settlers. The population of Royalton Township in 1840 was four hundred and one, so that the following-named families did not probably embrace the whole



SIXTEEN PERSONS, INCLUDING ELI PHILLIPS, LIVED THROUGH ONE WINTER IN A LOG CABIN TWENTY FEET SQUARE.

of the settlers of the first seven years of Royalton's settlement. However, to state the record as it is, among the settlers who came in 1834 were Butler Richardson, George W. Welsh, Warren Dodge, Frazier Smalley, and Joseph H. Applegate; in 1835, Nathaniel S. Ketchum, Charles D. Smith, John Sturdevant, Will L. Windship, Joshua Youngs, David Wood, and the brothers Blain, Wm. and Charles; in 1836, Elias Richardson, Ansel M. Henderson, George B. Brown, Amos H. and Henry Jordan, Daniel Bueler (later of Amboy), Ebenezer S., Mordecai, Willey, John T. and Snow Carpenter; in 1837, Amos Rathbun, and Hiram Richardson; in 1838, Jenks Morey, Benjamin Davis, Alpheus Fenner, John Hinkle, John Erastus and James Welsh; in 1839, Barney M. Robinson; in 1840, Enos C. Daniels, Michael Forester, Patrick Burroughs, and David Potes.

Butler Richardson came in May, 1834, and settled on section fifteen. He was a native of New York state, and became a leading

farmer of Royalton Township. George W. Welsh, also from Niagara county, New York, settled on the same section. He and his wife, Mary Whitney, were the parents of eleven children, all of whom were born in Royalton. George W. Welsh was one of the early township officers. Warren Dodge, and his wife, Permelia Church, also were the parents of eleven children. The family was formerly of New York State. Frasier Smalley, who also came in 1834, has the distinction of being the father of the first white male child to be born in Royalton. Nathaniel S. Ketchum, and his wife, Emeline Smith, came from Orange county, New York. Charles D. Smith and his wife, Jane B. Helms, were also of Orange county, New York. They settled upon section 7. Charles D. Smith served as sheriff for six of the first seven years of the existence of Fulton county, and was in the prime of manhood when he died in 1858. Two of his sons, Martin V. and Laton, later served with honor in the Civil War. Joshua Youngs was the pioneer physician of Royalton Township. He settled upon section 26,

CORN BREAD WAS THE STAPLE IN EARLY ROYALTON.

and died in 1873, having practiced medicine in the township for many years. David Wood settled on section 9. The brothers Blain settled on the line of Amboy and Royalton. Elias and Lucinda (Dowd) Richardson settled on section 9, Mr. Richardson soon afterwards acquiring additional land in section 10. He was an enterprising pioneer; was director of the plank road company, in 1850, and built eleven miles of that road; and for two terms of three years each he was county commissioner. The Richardson family was from New York, and one record says that Thomas, brother of Elias, came also in 1836, to Royalton, although another record says that Thomas stayed in Niagara county, where he had a good farm, and his son came to Royalton in 1838, purchasing forty acres, and subsequently an additional eighty acres, the latter being the farm later owned by Cyrus Downer. The son's name was Martin, and if he came in 1838, he probably accompanied his uncle, Hiram, brother of Elias, for Hiram Richardson came in 1837 or

1838. Ansel M. Henderson, of the 1836 immigrants, from Niagara county, New York, took active part eventually in township affairs. George B. Brown was the first sheriff of Fulton county. The Jordan family has been prominent in Royalton affairs. They originally came from Vermont. Henry was county commissioner for one term, and held some township offices. And the Carpenter family has to this day had close connection with the life of Royalton Township. Extensive biographical mention of scions of the family will be found in the second volume of this work. Samuel Carpenter, who came in 1843, was a worthy pioneer. Amos Rathbun, who came from Salem, Connecticut, in 1837, and settled about a mile south of where Lyons eventually was platted, was a public-spirited man. In the same year (1837) he built upon his land a log schoolhouse, and later upon that site, or near it, the "Little Red School House" stood until about 1850. Jenks Morey came in 1838, from Mentor, Lake county, Ohio. He settled upon section 9, becoming thus eventually the original proprietor of Lyons, or of the greater part of that incorporated place. Lyons originally was known as Morey's Corners. Jenks Morey was the first hotelkeeper in the township. He died in 1871. Benjamin Davies eventually became one of the most responsible business men of Royalton. He owned and operated on an extensive scale a cheese factory, handling a large portion of the milk product of Royalton and Amboy townships. He and his wife came originally from Dutchess County, New York. Alpheus Fenner, from Massachusetts, settled on section 10. He undertook many offices and responsibilities in the township administration. The Hinkle family has been one of the prominent families of Royalton since almost its beginning. Members of the family are still in the township, well-to-do and public-spirited. The name is encountered in almost all phases of the public history of Royalton Township, and Lyons. Michael Forester was comparatively an elderly man when he settled in Royalton Township in 1840. He lived to be more than one hundred years old, in longevity being in the class with Lucius P. Taylor, of Pike Township, still alive and now one hundred and four years old. David Lewis Bueler, who settled in Royalton in 1836, or 1838, lived in the township until 1852, when he was attracted to California by the discoveries of gold in that state. He returned three years later, and purchased a farm in Amboy. He took prominent part in church and school affairs, he alone constituting the building committee responsible for the erection of the first Methodist Episcopal church of Royalton. Later, he retired to Wauseon. Enos C. Daniels, a native of New York state, and later of Lake county, Ohio, where he married Mary Ann Carroll, lived from 1840 until his death, in 1902, in Royalton Township, and became the owner of an extensive tract of agricultural land. By trade, he was a carpenter and cabinet maker, and was evidently a capable building contractor. He was the builder of many of the pioneer buildings of consequence in the township. He built the first hotel, that owned by Jenks Morey; the first brick church in the township, that owned by the Disciples in Christ society; the first frame house in the township, probably that of Elias Richardson; and the first grist mill. His son, Albert C., became a Civil War soldier, and later owned the Eagle Cheese Factory, the first to be erected in Royalton. He was twice elected treasurer of Fulton county.

Township Records

Unfortunately there are no official township records of Royalton Township of earlier date than 1862. It is understood that the anterior records were destroyed by fire. However, Lucas county records show that Royalton was one of the three townships organized at a session of the Board of Commissioners of Lucas county, held in Toledo, on June 4, 1837, the other two being the adjoining townships east and west, Amboy and Chesterfield respectively. Royalton Township was organized by taking all of town nine south, range three east, south of the Harris Line, and all of town ten south, range three east, extending to the Fulton Line, south. The first election under this organization was held at Phillips Corners. An alteration of township lines occurred on March 1, 1841, when Royalton ceded to Pike the southern tier of sections of town nine south, range three east, and all of town ten south, range three east. Although the records for the important early years are not available, a complete record of township trustees can be tabulated, from 1862, when the township trustees were E. C. Daniels, Clark Standish and H. J. Jordan. The succession is as follows:

Cheese was once the main product of Royalton.

1863, E. Hinkle, H. C. Jordan, John Lewis; 1864, E. Hinkle, Samuel Gardner, C. Standish; 1865, E. Hinkle, Aaron Deyo and B. L. Barden; 1866, the same; 1867, E. Hinkle, H. C. Jordon, R. H. Scott; 1868, H. C. Jordan, Clark Standish and George Welsh; 1869, 1870, and 1871, Clark Standish, Richard Hinkle and James C. Carpenter; 1872, Aaron Deyo, B. Richardson and B. L. Barden; 1873, James C. Carpenter, B. L. Barden and A. B. Clark; 1874, Richard Scott, Richard Hinkle, and Chas. Sprague; 1875, E. C. Daniels, Richard Hinkle, and George Knight; 1876, C. Deyo, G. W. Moulton, and J. O. Meeker; 1877, R. H. Scott, B. R. Welsh, and Harrison Patterson; 1878, Aaron Deyo, John Holland, Aug. Noble; 1879, the same; 1880, Aaron Deyo, R. Hinkle, Benson L. Barden; 1881, A. Deyo, R. Hinkle, and F. D. Barden; 1882, Richard Hinkle, Davis Brown, Aug. Noble; 1883, Harrison Welsh, J. Cottrell, Aug. Noble; 1884, H. Welsh, Harrison Pat-

terson, B. L. Barden; 1885, H. Welsh, B. L. Barden, Sylvester Green; 1886 and 1887, R. Scott, John P. Holland, and H. Patterson; 1888 and 1889, R. Scott, A. W. Hurd, and H. Patterson; 1890, Fred H. Knapp, A. W. Hurd, R. H. Scott; 1891, F. H. Knapp, Davis Brown, and R. H. Scott; 1892 and 1893, Aug. Noble, D. Brown, and F. H. Knapp; 1894, J. P. Holland, D. Brown, F. H. Knapp; 1895, A. Noble, D. Brown, F. H. Knapp; 1896, John P. Holland, James Richardson, A. Noble; 1897, N. J. Rynd, A. Noble, James Richardson; 1898, John H. Barden, James Richardson, N. J. Rynd; 1899, J. H. Barden, William Standish, N. J. Rynd; 1900, and 1901, J. H. Barden, Wm. H. Standish, and C. L. Seward; 1902, Chas. Holt, A. Noble, C. L. Seward; 1903-04, Chas. Holt, A. Noble, E. Holmes; 1905-07, Chas. Holt, E. Edgar, and E. Holmes; 1908-09, Chas. Holt, E. Edgar, and A. F. Patterson; 1910-11, Willard Gunn, E. Edgar, and A. F. Patterson; 1912-13, W. Gunn, W. P. Carter, A. F. Patterson; 1914-15, W. Gunn, W. P. Carter, R. C. Standish; 1916, A. D. Barden, W. P. Carter, A. F. Patterson; 1917, A. D. Barden, W. P. Carter, Bert Hinkle; 1918, A. D. Barden, C. J. Albright, W. H. Hinkle; 1919, the same; 1920, H. H. Hinkle (chairman), C. J Albright, and John S. Bayes.

The Standish family, which name appears so often in township records, did not settle in Royalton Township until the fifties, but since that time it has been prominent in the township. Its genealogy connects with Miles Standish, of well-known Colonial record. Fred A. Slater, saddler, of Lyons, Civil War soldier, charter member of the Baxter Post, No. 238, of the Grand Army of the Republic, has been township clerk for any years.

Notable Incidents

in the history of Royalton Township are:

The first female white child born in Royalton was Emeline Welsh, who was born on November 1, 1834; William Smalley was the first male child born in the township.

The first marriage ceremony was that performed by Ebenezer Carpenter, justice of the peace, uniting Whitfield Tappan, of the present Pike Township, and Amanda Woodford, of Royalton. Royalton then included territory later ceded to Pike, so that this marriage may be considered the first of Royalton people; but the first marriage of residents of what is now Royalton was that of Olive Green to Jonas Dodge.

The first person buried in the Jordan Cemetery was Mrs. Brown, mother of the wife of Henry Jordan; the first buried in Lyons Cemetery was Cynthia Cadwell, a sister of Alanson Briggs, of Chesterfield.

The first physician was Joshua Youngs.

The first preacher was Elder Hodge, a Baptist.

The first school teacher was Olive Green, who taught in a log schoolhouse, on section 15, in 1837.

The first store at Phillips Corners, and the first merchants, Allen Wilcox and Sanford L. Collins.

The first hotel was conducted by Jenks Morey, the second by Eli Phillips.

The first saw-mill was built in 1850, by the Plank Road Company, and stood just west of Lyons Cemetery. James Baker, of Gorham, was the mill manager. The mill was eventually moved to Gorham Township.

The first cheese factory of any consequence was known as the Eagle Factory.

The first church was that built for the Universalists, in Lyons, in 1862.

The first high school was a private enterprise of Warren J. Hendryx, who built the school at Lyons in 1859, and was its principal for some years.

The first post-office was at Morey's Corners, and was named Lyons; hence probably the name of the only incorporated place in Royalton Township.

Cemeteries

There are two cemeteries in Royalton Township, the Jordan Cemetery, and the Lyons Cemetery. Both are now under the jurisdiction of the town and township officers, and Fred A. Slater has been clerk for a long while. The Baxter Post of G. A. R. decorate seventy-five graves in Lyons Cemetery, and thirty-one graves in the Jordan Cemetery, as well as twenty in the Roos Cemetery of Chesterfield Township. The Jordan Cemetery was early established, and early trustees of the cemetery association were Ira Hinkle, Lewis Buler, and A. H. Jordan, with Samuel Edgar, clerk. The trustees of Royalton Township met on January 14, 1882, for the purpose of "taking into consideration the propriety of taking charge, fencing, and controlling the cemetery, known as the Jordan Cemetery, located in section 22, town 9, range 3 east, containing one and one-half acres of land, which had formerly been deeded to the trustees of the Amboy and Royalton Cemetery Association." Since that time the cemetery has been controlled by the township. And in the borough records of Lyons, there is an entry to the effect that a meeting of the trustees of Royalton Township, and the council of the village of Lyons was held on April 1, 1907, "for the purpose of buying additional land for cemetery purposes." It was decided to purchase "three acres of land from Mary S. Haughton, at $200 an acre, the township to pay seven-twelfths, and the corporation five-twelfths."

Schools

A log schoolhouse was built in Royalton Township, on section fifteen, in 1837, and for the session of that year Olive Green was the teacher. Amos Rathbun built the second school, a log house, on his own farm, about one mile south of Lyons, or Morey's Corners. It is described as having "a floor of split puncheon, hewed upon the face; the seats and desks were of the same material." Either on the site of that school, or near to it was, sometime later, built the frame schoolhouse known as the "Little Red Schoolhouse," to which until about 1850 all the children of Lyons and district went. After the abandonment of the Red Schoolhouse in, about, 1850, a schoolhouse was located east of Seward. In 1858 Warren J. Hendryx built and taught a high school in Lyons.

Some of the early teachers in the schools of Royalton Township were Julia Root, Lewis Pierce, William Carrel. One of the ablest teachers of Royalton, and indeed of Fulton county, was James F. Burroughs. He began to teach in the fifties, and taught for fifty-nine winter terms

in Fulton and Lucas county. However, the teaching did not interfere with what might be termed his hobby. Rural schools in those days were only conducted, or rather were chiefly conducted, in the winter, for three months. The remainder of the year both scholar and teacher spent generally in farming. James F. Burroughs became one of the largest landowners in Royalton, although undoubtedly his main occupation was teaching. Not many of the early school records of Royalton Township are now available, but during the period 1853-1867, the following were indentified with the board of education: G. W. Welsh, John Sturdevant, A. H. Jordan, G. B. Brown, Jason H. Morris, Amos Hilton, Samuel Gardner, Butler Richardson, Aaron Deyo, S. Carpenter, Clark Standish, E. C. Daniels, S. P. Judson, Patrick Forester, George P. Moreys, W. B. Hendryx, J. Willy, F. Holt, L. L. Knapp, Charles Thornton, Thomas Richardson, L. J. Carrel, Ira Chandler, John Gibbs and Hiram Pierce.

In 1883, the joint school district, Amboy-Royalton, was organized, for that part of the township, and the school system and facilities of the township have since been about equal to those of other similar townships. The Royalton Township schools of the present (1920) are: four one-room elementary schools, the four valued at $4,350. In 1919 about 120 scholars were enrolled, for a school year of thirty-two weeks. In addition, there is a good elementary and high school at Lyons, that school building being valued at $22,509, and having three rooms for elementary grades and three for high. There were about 110 elementary pupils and 60 high school students in 1919. The present Board of Education for Royalton Township is constituted as follows: Elmer Edgar, president; F. A. Salter, clerk; Eugene Hinkle, R. N. Barnes, W. A. Patterson, and W. A. Gunn, directors. The Lyons board is: S. A. Fleming, president; Harry Tredway, clerk; W. J. Keller, Chas. Disbrow, Sim Evers, and Omer Fenner, directors. W. F. Egnew is the superintendent. Important changes are however now in process; the voters of Royalton have decided to dissolve the district schools, and join with Lyons, thus giving the township scholars the benefit of the better facilities possible in the larger village school. It is expected that this improvement will soon go into effect.

Churches

The first church to be built in Royalton Township appears to have been the Universalist Church, at Morey's Corners, or Lyons, although both the Free Methodist and Methodist Episcopal societies were early formed. E. C. Daniels built the first brick church, which was for the Society of the Church of Christ, Lyons. The church was built, it has been stated, soon after the termination of the Civil War; prior to that, the members of the Christian Church used the old academy building for their services. Rev. L. L. Carpenter, of Chesterfield and Wauseon was one of the influential pioneer ministers. and had active part in the organization of the Lyons society of the Christian Church, but it is believed that the minister chiefly instrumental in building the local organization and satisfactorily establishing the Lyons Christian Church was the Rev. Mr. Blackman, who will be remembered by many of the older residents of Lyons and Royalton. The Hinkle family, of Lyons, has been prominently identified with the Universalist Church since its

establishment; and one of the most active and useful members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, on the eastern border of Royalton, was David L. Buler (or Bueler).

The Incorporated Village of Lyons

The clean and well-maintained village of Lyons is one of the oldest villages of Fulton county. It came into existence in 1850, at the time of the building of the plank road from Toledo to Morenci. Jenks Morey owned the greater part of the land upon which Lyons has grown, and he was one of its most interested original projectors; but probably the man most instrumental in bringing it into being was Elias Richardson, a director of the Plank Road Company, and the builder of eleven miles of that roadway. Jenks Morey for many years maintained a hostelry on his land, and the place came to be known as Morey's Corners. W. S. Egnew, the present clerk of the Lyons Council, remembers the time when he, and other farmers of the township, were in the habit of going "down town," to get a supply of what in those days was deemed the necessary, whisky. Whisky was cheap in those days, and Mr. Egnew was accustomed to go down on horseback, and return with two jugs of whiskey slung across his saddle in the manner of pistol holsters. And the hotel proprietor was invariably one of the leading citizens.

For a while, it seemed that Phillip's Corners would outvie Lyons in civic importance, but the establishment of the postoffice at the latter place soon determined the relative places of the two communities. In 1887, Lyons consisted of the following business places:

"One dry goods store, kept by Hinkle and Downer; one drug store, Nelson F. Carmon's; one undertaker shop and art gallery, owned by Richardson and Ladd; one hotel, the landlord of which was Mr. Baker; three blacksmith shops; one cheese factory; one brick and tile factory, owned by James Briggs; one grist and saw mill, with attachments for making shingles, also a planing machine, the enterprise of A. C. Daniels and Walter Meeker; one millinery shop; one hardware and tin shop, R. W. Ladd's; one harness and carriage trimming shop, F. A. Slater's; two churches, the Universalist, built in 1862, and the Disciples, built in 1877."

There were two fraternal lodges, and two physicians, Ezra B. Mann, and H. H. Brown. The village did not develop very rapidly, but eventually it had attained sufficient strength as a community to warrant the claiming of corporate powers. The township records show that a "Petition was presented to the township trustees, by R. P. Carpenter, on November 11, 1897, praying for an incorporated village in the territory now known as Lyons." The petition was signed by:

R. P. Carpenter, E. P. Cole, Wm. Thornton, S. Seward, Thomas Blair, O. E. Crout, F. A. Slater, Wm. Hines, A. H. Jordan, M. B. Prentiss, A. Andres, A. M. Hall, Geo. Johnston, A. A. Green, Wm. Smalley, E. C. Daniels, Francis Lauderdale, B. A. Hill, Jacob Cottrell, J. M. Foster, T. J. Ferguson, W. J. Morey, Wm. Sands, Job Hawkins, M. A. Deline, Ed. Smith, Ben Lehr, Wash. Forbes, Gordon Stong, R. F. Meehle, A. H. Clark, M. Bardwell, P. E. Marlett, T. G. Richardson, B. Bundy, A. J. Smith, David Jones, J. G. Hoefer, B. R. Richardson, Geo. Smith, Fin Ferguson, E. E. Hart, Peter Myers, George Gray, Alpheus Fenner, W. S. Egnew, C. O. Noble, A. A. Pike, J. C. Hawkins, C. A. Gee.

At the resulting election, which was held on December 21, 1897, much opposition was evidenced; so much indeed as to defeat the movement, forty-four votes being cast against the suggested incorporation, and thirty-three votes in favor of it. However, the vote was not taken as decisive, or final, and a further "notice of election for incorporation" was published on June 14, 1900. At the election, which was held on the 26th day of that month, the voting was again close, but a sufficient majority resulted to pass the measure, eighty-four voting in favor, and seventy-nine against. The village thus was entitled to corporate powers, and the first council meeting was held in Carmon Building, on September 18, 1900. The first village officers were: E. E. Milliken, mayor; B. S. Lehr, marshal; B. R. Richardson, clerk; A. T. McComb, treasurer; J. H. Barden, F. A. Slater, R. P. Carpenter, Augustus Noble, G. Stong, and J. G. Hoefer, councilmen. About a year later a council room was built.

Probably the most important matter the village council had to consider in the early years of the incorporated village was that which resulted in giving the place railroad facilities. In January, 1901, notice was published by the council of "an application made to the incorporated village, for the granting of a franchise for a railroad" to the Toledo and Western Railway Company, which sought to "construct, maintain and operate a railroad.....by electricity, upon and along the old Indiana plank road, passing nearly east and west, through the village." Then followed an ordinance, granting the franchise, one of the main provisions of said ordinance being "that the said Toledo and Western Railway Company, its successors and assigns, shall carry passengers over that part of said line (the village boundaries) for a continuous passage, for five cents for each person so carried."

The following named residents of Lyons have held mayoral office in its administration:

E. E. Milliken, 1900-02; G. W. Moulton, 1903; J. H. Barden, 1904-07; Davis Drown, 1908-09; Fred H. Carpenter, 1910; G. G. Vinsick, 1911; J. H. Barden, 1912-13; Davis Brown, 1914-15; E. R. Fox, 1916; Charles Holt, 1917-20.

The present (1920) council is: C. Slater, Howard Camburn, Jay Knapp, O. Dunbar, John Clendenin, and Fred Noble. W. S. Egnew has been town clerk for many years.

Biographical mention of some of the leading citizens of present-day Lyons will be embodied in volume II, of this work. The Lyons Bank is referred to in an earlier chapter of this volume. There are two strong and long-established lodges in Lyons, those of the Masonic and Oddfellows orders.

Masonic Bodies

Royalton Union Lodge, No. 434, F. & A. M.; organized October 15, 1869. (Original charter destroyed by fire). Present strength, about 130 members. Present officers: Roy N. Slater, w. m.; H. R. Tredway, s. w.; John Fillinger, j. w.; J. H. Barden, treasurer; F. A. Slater, secretary; Fred Hoefer, s. d.; H. B. Hinkle, j. d.; L. L. Viers, tyler.

Lyons Chapter, No. 175, Royal Arch Masons; organized October 15, 1903. Charter members: Davis Brown, Amos H. Jordan, C. S. Buck, G. D. Brown, James Edwards, C. L. Seward, F. A. Slater, W. H. Seward, J. H. Barden, G. D. Johnston, A. T. Cunningham, Ira Smeales,

Peter Beihl, Hy Tripp, Col. Carn, J. C. Carpenter, Wm. Thornton, Bradford Bundy, T. F. Southworth, D. S. Knight, F. E. Brown, Charles Fetterman, F. A. Sealy, C. H. Heffron, Wm. Burgess, M. P. Sanderson, Horace Tredway, E. H. Ritchie, Jacob Gandy, Frank A. Wheeler. First officers, Davis Brown, h. p.; Amos H. Jordan, k.; Charles S. Buck, scribe. The present officers are: F. A. Barden, h. p.; L. S. Sanford, king; C. B. Slater, scribe; J. R. Clendenin, treasurer; F. A. Slater, secretary; Fred Noble, c. of h.; J. H. Barden, p. s.; C. L. Seward, r. a. c.; L. J. Knapp, g. m. of 3rd; R. S. Slater, g. m. of 2d; H. J. Camburn, g. m. of 1st; Gordon Stong, guard. Present strength, about one hundred members.

Magnolia Chapter, No. 87, Order of Eastern Star; organized October 14, 1897. Charter members: A. S. Slater, M. Antoinette Edwards, Harriet Brown, Sylvia Brown, Ethel Hinkle, Mary A. Burgess, Alice J. Seward, Allie B. Brown, Hattie M. Hinkle, Sarah A. Foster, Sarah Thornton, Margaret H. Moulton, Emily A. Potes, Edith M. Carmon, R. Alice Carmon, Edith M. Slater, Charles L. Seward, Davis Brown, William Burgess, James Edwards, Fred A. Slater, John M. Foster, Wm. Thornton, Selah W. Moulton, George D. Brown. First officers: Cynthia Slater, w. m.; George D. Brown, w. p.; Emily A Potes, a. m.

Oddfellows

Lyons Lodge, No. 622, Independent Order of Oddfellows, was organized on May 4, 1876, with the following charter members: Frank Hatton, H. C. Retan, H. J. Whiton, L. C. Potes, P. A. Baker, John W. Foster, S. W. Moulton, and Daniel Richardson. The first officers were: Frank Hatten, noble grand; H. C. Retan, vice grand. The present strength is about 190 members, the 1920 officers being: Ragan Elliott, n. g.; James Richardson, v. g.; Roy Cunningham, r. s.; Sidney Fleming, f. s.; Clark Hibbard, treasurer.

The history of the local post of the Grand Army of the Republic is reviewed in the chapter devoted to the war record of Fulton county.

Population

Unfortunately, the complete statistics, from the beginning of the settlement of Royalton Township, cannot be given, but to preserve what statistics are now available the understated figures are given. In 1840, Royalton Township population numbered 401, this figure however including the inhabitants of that part ceded to Pike Township, upon the organization of the latter, in 1841. In 1870 the population of Royalton was 871; in 1890, 1,142; in 1900, 1,198; in 1910, 1,272; and in 1920, 1,135. These figures are inclusive of the Lyons population, in each case. The Lyons statistics were not separately shown until the 1910 census, when the village population was 408. In 1920, its population has been reduced to 329. The 1920 figures are those of the "Preliminary Announcement of Population," issued by the Bureau of the Census, in June, 1920; they are therefore subject to revision.

CHAPTER XVI

HISTORY OF DOVER TOWNSHIP

The township of Dover was organized in 1843, but its settlement began in 1836. Its early history therefore has place in the annals of older townships, namely, Chesterfield, York, and Clinton. At one time, part of the territory of the present township of Dover was claimed to be in Michigan. That state claimed all of the territory of Fulton county north of what is known as the Fulton line, which by the way has no connection with the boundary line of Fulton county, as now established. The boundary dispute between the Territory of Michigan and the State of Ohio is treated in a special chapter of this work, and a brief study of that chapter will give the reader a clearer understanding of the dispute, also of state and county, and part-county boundary lines. The dispute was settled in 1836, and the northern line of the State of Ohio then clearly defined as extending northward to what is known as the Harris line. By the decision of the Federal Government, the strip of land which lies between the Fulton and the Harris lines, and which was formerly considered by Michigan to have been within the boundaries of Lenawee county, of that territory, came under the undisputed jurisdiction of Lucas county, Ohio. However, the fact that Lenawee county, Michigan, claimed title to part of the present land of Dover Township is immaterial, for settlement in that part of the land north of the Fulton line had not begun in 1836. In 1837, Chesterfield Township was organized, with its boundaries defined as: "all of town nine south, ranges one and two east, south of the Harris line, and the fractional township, town ten south, ranges one and two east, extending to the Fulton line, on the south."

South of the Fulton line, that part of the present bounds of Dover Township was in York Township until 1838, when the township of Clinton was organized, "by taking all of town seven north, range six east, and fractional town eight north, range six east of the Ohio survey, up to the said Fulton line." Dover Township was the last of the twelve of Fulton county to be erected, was organized at Maumee on June 5, 1843, at a regular session of the county commissioners (of Lucas county). The new township was erected by taking from Chesterfield "all of the fractional township ten south, range two east, of the Michigan survey," i. e., north of the Fulton line, and from Clinton Township, "all of the fractional township eight north, range six east, and one tier of sections off of the north side of town seven north, range six east, of the Ohio survey," i. e., south of the Fulton line. Thus the area of Dover Township upon erection consisted of twenty-one sections, or 13,119 acres. It is the smallest of the twelve townships of Fulton county, and was thought likely to prove to be the most barren. Its land in many places is sandy, and part became known, in early settlement days as "Oak Openings" because of its

scarcity of timber. The land was thought to be sterile; indeed, a quip of pioneer days was to the effect that at the "Oak Openings," it required "three acres to grow an onion." It did not however need many decades of industrious development and tillage to demonstrate that at the "Oak Openings" was soil capable of giving a good return for labor expended. One writer, in the seventies, stated:

"On 'the openings,' where it used to be said that it would require three acres to grow a single onion we now see splendid crops growing. Those used to black soil, and accustomed to associate that color with fertility, and vice versa, are surprised to see the yellow sand of these openings producing abundantly every kind of grain.....Everywhere, on the 'openings,' neat residences are being erected, fences built, grounds cultivated, orchards planted, etc., and the whole changed from what once seemed barren desolation to an appearance of thrift and prosperity."

The Pioneers

The first settler in Dover Township was William Jones, familiarly known as "Long Bill." He came in the fall of 1836, and settled in the southwestern part of the township. In the building of his log cabin, which was 14 x 16 feet, he was assisted by Aaron Little, Jacob Boyers, a boy, and two Indians. "Long Bill" Jones was unusually tall, and was a conspicuous figure at public gatherings. He was a capable well-educated man, and although he was one of the pioneer teachers, he was probably not the early teacher of whom Verity writes as having "had his scholars to spell United States commencing with You." Jones took executive part in much of the pioneer township organization; he was clerk of Clinton Township in 1838, being elected, in April, at the first election in Clinton Township. He seemed to have been a justice of the peace in 1839, for he went to German Township to swear into office Samuel B. Darby, as first township clerk of German. He taught in a log schoolhouse on section 14 of Clinton Township in the fall of 1840, and throughout his life he took interested part in educational administration. Also it appears that he sometimes preached "for the Disciples, there then being a few of that faith in Clinton Township, on the south."

Alonzo H. Butler was the first to settle north of the Fulton line, in that part of Chesterfield which later became part of Dover Township. He came in the spring of 1837, with his wife, and settled upon section seven, town ten south, range two east.

Later, in 1837, several more families arrived, and settled, among them Peter Lott, Salathiel Bennett, Elijah Bennett, Michael Ferguson, James Gould, and Pearl Smith, all with families.

In 1838, the incoming settlers were: William Hoffmire, John J. Schnall, Nathan Gay, Eben French, Mortimer D. Hibbard.

During the next seven years, a settlement grew in the eastern end of the township, in the vicinity of what eventually became the site of the county seat, Ottokee. Among the settlers of those years were Moses Ayers, Joseph Shadle, Jacob Nolan, William Fuller, John G. Tiffany, Henry Herreman, William Jones, Jr., Oscar A. Cobb, Richard Marks, Alonzo Knapp, Warren W. Hodge, Comfort Marks, Archie Knapp, Elisha Cobb, John Atkinson, Chandler Tiffany, George Tiffany and John Meader. And, in the same period, many families settled in the

western part of the township, among them William Waid, E. H. Patterson, Burdick Burtch, Jasper Dowell, William Brierly, Joseph Jewell, William Jewell, James Wells, Wiliam J. Coss, Eisha Hibbard, and Willard Church.

Early Suffering

The lot of these settlers was a hard one; made very much harder by the prostrating fever and ague, which seemed to take young and old, feeble and strong. Oliver B. Verity, who became probate judge of Fulton county in 1858, took up residence in Ottokee when he assumed county office, and became so attached to the place and the people that he ever afterwards made Ottokee his home; and his history of Dover Township is probably the most authentic, for he was a careful historian, and knew personally and intimately almost all of the old families of Dover. Regarding the worst period of malarial distress in Dover Township he writes:

"This township, from its settlement in 1836 to 1845, was a land of 'fever and ague to the very edge.' It has been no exaggeration of the historian to say that, for a few years after 1838, in the summer and fall, the larger half of the population were languishing on beds of ague and fever; many a housewife was compelled to keep house and do the work for a family between the passing away of the 'sweating stage' and the next 'ague' attack. In the interval a large amount of work was done by them, and had to be, because help was scarce in such times as these. This picture is but a fair sample of the township, and had to be endured until the winter frosts brought relief. Quinine was to them the staff of life, and often meant more than bread to the languishing individual. But few of those early pioneers died from these malarial attacks, yet all who passed through those days can never forget them."

Judge W. H. Handy, a former resident, wrote reminiscently of Ottokee, and seems to have vivid recollection of the distressing effects of ague. He wrote:

"One of the clearest recollections I have of those old days is of the fever and ague which everybody had, more or less, and which when once experienced leaves a recollection that is not to leave one very soon. People now living here who came here after our perfect drainage was established never had a touch of the shakes, and can have little idea of what the genuine old ague and fever really means."

Typical Settlers

Still, the fact that the region was malarial did not deter the settlers, and there is nothing on record showing that any left the district on that account. The pioneers came prepared, at least in will, to withstand hardships, and they tackled the existing conditions, whatever they were, with good cheer, and a confidence that they would overcome all handicaps in course of time. The pioneer family, that of William Jones, "lived in their wagon, and under the shelter of rude temporary abodes, built of poles, brush, and blankets, while the father went to work to construct a rough cabin of round logs." Joseph Shadle, one of the worthy pioneers of Dover, began married life on forty cents a day, which he received for hard labor, that of cutting cord wood. He later made coffins of walnut, which caskets he sold at a standard price of

one dollar a foot, or $6.00 for a completed walnut coffin, six feet long. Yet, he lived to own 1,002 acres of land in Dover Township, reared ten children, and his descendants now number 22 grandchildren, 80 great-grandchildren, 29 great-great-grandchildren, and twelve great-great-great-grandchildren. By his untiring effort and hard work he made it possible for each of his ten children to have a comfortable home of his, or her, own. He, and his wife, Jane Burk, were worthy pioneers of Fulton county. Both did their share, in working the wild unproductive region into a land of agricultural plenty and of fine farm homes. She, Jane Burk Shadle, was well fitted for such a life of hard work and simple living as must have been theirs in their early days in Dover. Even in her young days she used to do the housework; break the flax; spin it; help make the clothes for the family; work in the fields, raking and binding grain; and when Joseph Shadle and his wife and five children came to Fulton county, or rather to Lucas county, as it then was, they took nine days to make the journey from Wayne county, with horses, cows, and hogs; and when they took possession of their 160 acres of wild land in Dover Township, upon their arrival, they had in reserve only forty dollars. But husband and wife, and, as they grew, the children also, industriously labored until the wilderness had been conquered, or transformed into a rich farm property. Joseph and Jane Burk Shadle were typical of many other capable men and women whose names go down to posterity as the builders of Fulton county, Ohio. Little do the present generation know of the almost incredible and inconceivable thrift their ancestors had to practice in order to battle through the time of hardship and privation to the time of comparative plenty and comfort.

The Hibbard family, founders of Spring Hill, or Tedrow, was one of the most prominent and capable of the pioneer families of Dover Township. The family genealogy connects with leading families of colonial Massachusetts, and that generation which settled in Dover seems to have been of superior education and refined upbringing. Judge Ambrose Rice, uncle of Mary Rice, who married Mortimer D. Hibbard, passed through the region, with a surveyor's chain, some years before white settlement began, probably in 1834. He was in the employ of the state or federal government, and made Perrysburg, or Maumee City, his headquarters, but "thinking he had never seen a finer location than the oak openings, Judge Rice induced his niece, Mary Rice, and her husband, Mortimer D. Hibbard, to remove here from Athens county (Ohio), in 1838." Marie A. Hibbard, who writes the narrative, which is based upon diary entries made by her mother, Mary Rice Hibbard, continues: "With a good team of horses, and a covered wagon, they seem to have suffered no great discomfort on the way, although the trip was made in winter. They reached the little two-roomed log cabin, their future home for four years, on the fourth day of February. Their farm, selected for them by Ambrose Rice, consisted of a large tract of land lying half a mile north of the Maumee Road." Miss Hibbard writes also, of a somewhat exciting introduction her mother had to the Indians who still clung to their old hunting grounds in the Maumee country. She explains that "the oak openings, or plains, were kept free from underbrush by the Indians, who burned them each fall to make better hunting grounds." And other records show that the banks of Brush Creek, at Spring Hill, were favored, as a camping place by the Indians in former days, there being fine springs in the vicinity.

But at the time the Hibbards came, the Indians in the county were so few that their possible proximity was forgotten. Miss Hibbard writes:

"Soon after their coming into the new country, she (Mrs. Hibbard) was necessarily left alone one day with her four little children. There were no near neighbors, and she had seen no Indians. A shadow fell across the floor, and, looking up from her work, she saw a party of them, each with gun in hand, filing through the door into the little cabin. As they came between her and her baby, sleeping in its cradle, her heart stood still for a moment. Seeing her alarm, the foremost one turned and stood his gun behind the door, motioning the others to do the same. Then they made her understand that they were hungry, and wanted something to eat. She gave them as good a dinner as she could, and after eating it they went quietly away, much to her relief, and she saw them no more.

"One morning, not long afterwards, an Indian appeared carrying a deer over his shoulder. He laid it across the doorway, probably in return for what she had done for the hunting party."

Evidently, the "oak openings" soon proved to be productive soil.

JANE BURK SHADLE USED TO BREAK THE FLAX, SPIN IT, AND HELP MAKE THE CLOTHES FOR THE FAMILY.

There was wild fruit in abundance; and in the second season of their residence, Mrs. Hibbard records, under date of August 26, 1840, "We have plenty of good melons. One was brought in today that weighed twenty-six pounds and four ounces."

Mortimer D. Hibbard had leading part in both township and county organization. The first election in Dover Township was held in his house; and he and his father ably furthered the project which eventually resulted in the erection of Fulton county. He was the first county auditor; and he surveyed and platted the village of Spring Hill, upon land bequeathed to his children, Oscar and Jason, by their granduncle, Judge Rice, who only spent a few years in Dover Township, being "troubled with a cough," and going eventually to a warmer climate, dying in New Orleans in 1841, "of hemorrhage."

Elisha Hibbard, father of Mortimer D., evidently did not come with his son in 1838. Mrs. Hibbard wrote in her diary under date February 1, 1841: "Father Hibbard arrived today, from his home in Dover,

Athens county," and on the 5th of that month she wrote: "Father left today, on his journey home. He has bought a farm, and expects to move on it in September." The farm, it seems, "consisted of eighty acres, forty each side of the Maumee road, one mile east of the present village of Spring Hill. One mile east of Elisha's farm was the farm of Randolph Hibbard, half-brother of Mortimer. This farm is now owned by Dr. Borden, and occupied by James Hibbard." The old log house built for Randolph Hibbard was not torn down until 1916, having stood seventy-five years. The Rev. Elisha Hibbard was one of the judges at the first election in Dover Township, and on that occasion was himself elected overseer of the poor. He was one of the pioneers of the movement which culminated in the establishment of Fulton county. In 1845, he journeyed to Columbus, to make known to the State Legislature the desire of the majority of the residents within the, then, western part of Lucas county to be separated from that county. He died in 1847. There is little doubt that Dover Township was given that name at the suggestion of, or in honor of, the Hibbard family, which had formerly lived in Dover, Athens county. Rev. Elisha Hibbard, had he lived, would probably have had much more conspicuous place in Fulton county annals. He was a man of strong purpose, and was not resident in Dover long before he exercised a strong influence for good upon his fellow-settlers. The diary, before-quoted, has an entry, July 24, 1841, reading: "We had a temperance lecture here today, the first ever held in Clinton Township. There were about a hundred here. Father Hibbard addressed them. If anything deserves the name of glorious it is the temperance cause. May it spread from the east to west, from the north to the south, until not a drunkard is left in the land." Apparently, national prohibition had been but slowly accomplished, for that meeting was held almost eighty years ago. It was followed by many other such meetings. Mrs. Hibbard, on February 4, 1852, wrote: "We had a temperance meeting here (Spring Hill) this evening. Brother David Edwards lectured. Sixty-three signed the pledge." In fact, the movement grew so strong in Spring Hill that no saloon was permitted in the village. Miss Hibbard writes: "An attempt was made, by a non-resident, to start one, but before it could be put in operation it was found one morning with pools of liquor surrounding it, and empty casks and barrels rolling about. No one could, or would, name the perpetrators. They said they 'guesed it was the women.' Many years after, two carpenters, young men, acknowledged it was their work."

Earnest God-Fearing Men

From a reading of the life-stories of many of the early residents in Dover Township, one gains the impression that, as a whole, they were earnest, God-fearing men of high moral purpose, and religious life. Moses Ayers was one such. He was one of the pioneer members, indeed one record asserts he was one of the pioneers and founders, of the Disciples, or Christian Church, in Fulton county. Thus he is described by one writer: "A man who lived a life well spent, made the world better for having lived in it, and whose life commended itself to all who knew him." The same writer continues: "Moses Ayers was one of the charter members of the church at Brush Creek, Lucas

county, now Spring Hill, Fulton county. The church was organized in March, 1841, by Benjamin Alton, of DeKalb county Indiana. Moses Ayers.....came to what is now Fulton county on February 26, 1838, and his cabin home was the stopping place for people going and coming from Eastern Ohio to Indiana.....From some Indiana people, Mr. Ayers heard of Brother Alton, whom later he engaged to come and hold a meeting in his home. Mr. Alton came, and held the meetings, which Mr. and Mrs. Ayers enjoyed preparing for in his hospitable cabin home.....Mr. Alton.....before leaving organized the Spring Hill Church, with seventeen charter members. Mr. Ayers could not promise Brother Alton any money for his services, but, when this earnest worker started to return to his home in Indiana, Mr. Ayers gave him a cow worth twenty-five or thirty dollars. It was through his efforts that Brother C. J. Blackman was brought to Morey's Corners, now Lyons, and established a church there, in 1858 or 1859. Brother Ayers advanced the cause of Christianity to the day of his death, which occurred May 19, 1884."

Of course, William Jones, the first settler in Dover, must also be named among the pioneers of that church in Fulton county, for he appears to have actually preached to members of that sect, or denomination, in Clinton Township, probably before the coming of Moses Ayers. Jacob Boyers, who is referred to as having assisted in the raising of William Jones' log cabin, was the son of Jones' wife, by a former marriage. Jacob Boyers "was a good, honest, substantial citizen; one of several who, on the discovery of gold, took the long hard journey to California, but, unlike many, he lived to return to his family." He married Lydia, the daughter of Joseph Jewel, an early settler, and pioneer teacher. Hannah Jones, half-sister of Jacob Boyers, made her home with him. She has been "long remembered, in and about Spring Hill, as a good teacher."

Adam Poorman seems to have first settled in Franklin Township, where he was reputed to be "a very hard-working and industrious man," and "a friend to the stranger and the new settler." In 1846, he sold his farm in Franklin Township, and moved into Dover, buying land in section six, town ten south, range two east.

Henry Harriman, who came to Dover in 1844, where he settled on a farm, was a young physician, and although not the first to take up practice in the township, "his coming at that time was a Godsend to the people of this, then, wilderness, for at that time nearly everybody was sick with fever and ague, and he was kept in the saddle night and day. With all his large practice, he was never known to crowd any one for his pay" stated an obituary, following his death, at his home, one mile east of Ottokee, on February 6, 1896, he being then eighty-five years old. When the call came for patriots to give personal service in the 'sixties he was one of those who joined the Sixty-seventh Regiment of Ohio Volunteer Infantry.

Edwin H. Patterson, came with his parents, in 1838, and settled in Chesterfield Township, in which of course part of the land now in Dover Township then was. (One record stated that his father, George W. Patterson settled on section fifteen, of Chesterfield Township, and that Edwin H. did not buy the homestead in Dover Township until 1847, then paying $240 for the original eighty acres.) In 1906, at the

age of eighty-seven years, and still one of the largest landowners of Dover, Edwin H. Patterson made public some interesting personal history. The Patterson family, in 1838, set out from New York, coming by boat to Toledo, and according to Mr. Patterson's narrative:

"When we landed at Toledo, which was then about as large as Wauseon is now, we tried to find lodging, but everybody was sick with the ague or fever. . . . . It was so late in the afternoon when we landed that we could not get things ready to start on our western journey, so that night I slept on the dock, curled up by the side of a large store box. The next day we had everything loaded in our wagon, which was drawn by a team of oxen, and we started for our western home. We came west over the territorial, or government, road which is now known as the 'Old Plank Road.' On the first day's travel we did not meet a person. We had started for Morenci and at the close of our second day's travel, we reached our destination, but to our surprise there was no town, not even a house. The next day we landed on a farm, near where I now live. Our nearest neighbors on the west were ten miles away. There was not a village in the county, and only a few settlements. At that time, there was not a railroad in northwestern Ohio. (Note. An incorrect statement, for the railroad from Toledo to Adrian was then in operation.) The past sixty-eight years have brought many great changes in this county. In those early days we did our trading at Adrian, that being our nearest town. We went to mill at Canandaigua, a distance of some sixteen or seventeen miles. The public roads at that time angled through the woods following the ridges. No bridges were built and the streams had to be forded.

When I first came here, the best land could have been bought for three dollars an acre, while the land where the largest part of Toledo now stands was offered for sale at ten dollars per acre."

The Tedrow family comes into earliest records of Clinton and Dover Townships. Isaac and Elizabeth Tedrow came from Holmes county in 1836. In 1839, he and Shipman Losure built, or helped to build, a log schoolhouse on the southeast quarter of section 15. That schoolhouse was designated the Losure, or Tedrow, Schoolhouse, and the winter term of school in 1839 was conducted by Lorenzo Bennett, who received $10 a month. He taught, apparently, for about three months, for in January, 1840, Isaac Tedrow received from the Lucas county auditor (through Elisha Huntington, who was paid $3.50 for bringing the money from Toledo), the sum of $31.21.7, that being the amount taken from county funds for the maintenance of the Losure or Tedrow School District. There were six pupils in the first year, five being children of the Tedrow family, Rachel, Catherine, Jeremiah, Isaiah, and William. The sixth was C. H. Losure.

William Tedrow, in 1857, married a daughter of William Hoffmire, who settled in 1838 a little north of Spring Hill. She was then only four years old, but vividly remembered most of the important happenings of her childhood. She stated that "the first post-office was kept by her father-in-law, Isaac Tedrow, who was then living on the farm better known as the Col. Brigham farm. The post-office was called Tedrow, in honor of Mr. Tedrow. Later, the office was moved to the old Schnall Farm, and from there to Spring Hill." Verity says that "John J. Schnall was the first postmaster, when the office was

named 'Tedrow;' " but the name given to the office leads one to believe Mrs. William Tedrow's is the correct version. It is supported by the diaries of Mrs. Mary Rice Hibbard, these enabling Miss Marie A. Hibbard to write: "The village (Spring Hill) received its name from the farm of which it was a part. When the postoffice was removed from Mr. Tedrow's, several miles south, it was found that the name could not be changed to that of the village, as there was an office called Spring Hill in the state. Therefore, it kept the name of the former postmaster, Tedrow." Isaac Tedrow was one of the original members of the first Methodist Episcopal Society formed in the Spring Hill neighborhood, as early as 1842. The Tedrow family has given many useful citizens to Fulton county. Jerry, son of Isaac Tedrow, died in 1906, from complications resulting from a kick by a fractious colt. He was then seventy-eight years old, and had lived about seventy years in the county, taking useful part in its development.

John J. Schnall, the first, or the second, postmaster of Dover Township, was responsibly identified with county and township affairs for very many years. He was county surveyor for twenty-one years, and throughout his life interested himself in the affairs of Dover. He was judge of election, at the first election in that township, and an indication of his general character is contained in the record that, in 1852, he took a leading part in the organization of what was probably the first temperance society formed in Fulton county. The Spring Hill Temperance Society was formed on February 18, 1852, with Mortimer D. Hibbard, president, and John J. Schnall, vice president.

It is unfortunate that space is not available in this current work to review in detail the commendable activities of more of the industrious and public-spirited pioneers of Dover. So many had meritorious part in the various phases of community and county building. Verity named many, "of whom the township may well feel proud," among them: David Ayers, John Funk, Gideon Ayers, George Miley, Harrison Schnall, Isaiah L. Hagerman, Willard D. Crout, Peter Gype, John Lathrop, Stephen Eldridge, Cornelius M. Spring, James Kahle, Daniel Foreman, James M. Gillette, DeLos Palmer, Harvey Shadle, Myron A. Beecher, Jeremiah Jones, Barnett and Adolph Kutzley, Thompson Todd, Lucien H. Guilford, Valentine Theobold, George Guilford, John Seibold, Alonzo Marks, Luther Shadle John Smellie, Gavin Smellie, L. C. Cook, L. N. Cook Barney H. Anderson, Levi McConkey, Jasper Dowell Asa Borton, Lemuel F. Waid, Charles Waid Charles Baldwin Carter, William Somers, Alfred F. Shaffer, John Huffman, Oliver B. Huffman; but that does not exhaust the list of Dover Township residents of prominence and usefulness during the first fifty years of its settlement. Not the least useful was Oliver B. Verity himself, who gathered for the posterity of Fulton county more historical data of its pioneer period than has probably any other two local historians. And his personal record of public service is worth recording, including, as it did: nine years as township clerk of Gorham; a period as justice of the peace; many years as township school examiner, and, later, as county school examiner; twelve years as judge of the probate court; twenty-four years as postmaster at Ottokee; six years as superintendent of the Fulton County Infirmary, or Home as it is now designated; and other public offices, such as township trustee, clerk, land appraiser, census marshal, and what not. His life seems to have

been given up entirely to matters of public service, in many cases honorary. During the years of the Civil War, his office at the court house, at Ottokee, was open day and night; and after nightfall any of his fellow-townsmen who wished might wend their way to the probate office to hear Judge Verity read, to those who gathered, the war news from the New York "Tribune," it being "the only daily in the town, and that cost $11 per year, paid for by contribution and read by O. B. Verity," a genuine service, for there were probably some who were not able to read. But after the reading, the war news was repeated in the homes, and thus Ottokee was probably one of the best informed of country communities during those anxious times.

The Passing of the Indians

The passing of the Indians from the territory has been referred to comprehensively in earlier chapters of this volume. Dover Plains were treasured "openings" for the Indians. The stretch of open country was known as Djue-naw-ba Plains (or Twa-naw-ba's Plains) or possibly Neshe-naw-ba Plain, the latter being the full Pottawatomie, Indian, word, the other being partly of a French derivative. Djue-naw-ba, or Neshe-naw-ba, was, according to Col. Dresden W. H. Howard, the name applied "more particularly to the Ridge and Springs at Etna, at the old crossing of Bad Creek." Several Indian experiences of early settlers in Dover Township have been recorded. Michael Handy who settled in what was then York Township, and eventually became Pike Township, just beyond the line of Dover, stated that:

"At the time (1840) we had no worked roads here, all about as nature made them, as evidenced by Indian trails over the face of the country; and as I settled on the openings I knew more about them than the timber, hence have more to say of them. The Indians would set the prairies on fire in the fall and everything that would burn was out of the way, and in the early spring the prairie grass would look so green and nice, and cattle would make for it; and the deer from the woods would seem to cover the prairies. No trouble to see flocks of them at most any time. You could get nice venison hams at any time from the Indians, for a small price."

Mrs. William Tedrow states that she "went to school in Tedrow, in the first schoolhouse of that place, located on the high lot just east of the W. C. T. U. hall, and west of the residence of the late Dr. Shaffer." She remembers "several Indians stopped in front of the schoolhouse one day." That schoolhouse was not opened until December 19, 1840, and the incident was memorable probably because it was thought that all the Indians had left the vicinity. Mrs. Hibbard wrote in her diary, under date June 9, 1840: "Visited at Mr. Ferguson's today. We saw seven squaws, four papooses, three loaded ponies, four dogs, and a pig on the way to a new camping ground." On November 29th she wrote: "The Indians who formerly lived in this place have been compelled this fall to leave it, and go to the far west." On December 4, 1840, Mrs. Hibbard referred to the firing of the plains, but whether by Indians, or by white settlers is not clear, although one would infer by the former, for on same date she comments on the fact that although she was alone, with her children, on the night of the 3rd, she was not afraid. Of the fire she wrote:

"There is a fire on the plains east of us this evening. It is a beautiful sight, unlike anything I ever saw in a hilly country. The country here is so level, the timber so scattering, without underwood or brush, that when a fire spreads in the dry leaves and grass we can see it in the evening, extending in a long straight unbroken line to a great distance, uninterrupted to the view, except by the trunks of intervening trees."

There is reason to believe that the very last of the Indians who once inhabited Fulton county left in the early forties. Col. D. W. H. Howard, writing, in 1887, to Mrs. S. D. Snow, sister of Marie A. Hibbard, of Spring Hill, stated that "the Pottawatomies.....were removed, or notified by the Genl. Govt. to remove, in 1839 and also in 1840; when the remnant went."

Many Indian relics have been unearthed from the soil, in the process of tillage, in the vicinity of Spring Hill.

MANY INDIAN RELICS HAVE BEEN UNEARTHED AT SPRING HILL.

FIRST ELECTION

At a commissioner's session at Maumee City on June 5, (or August 1) 1843, Dover Township, Lucas county, was organized. An order was published notifying residents and voters that an election would be held on August 7, 1843, the house of Mortimer D. Hibbard, at Spring Hill, being designated as the place of voting. The house at that time was probably the most palatial in the township. The Hibbards had moved into it in the previous year, from their little log cabin. Mrs. Hibbard recorded in her diary under April 8, 1842, date: "Left the old cabin and moved into the new house." The new house, Miss Hibbard describes as having been:

"A double log house, with two large rooms, and a smaller room at each end. There were stairs up to two large low rooms above. It had long covered porches at the front and back. There was a double fireplace in the center, giving an opening into each of the two large rooms. This house stood about sixty rods east of the present village

and on the north side of the Maumee Road, which then curved well to the north, skirting a great pond south and a little to the east of the house. The road then continued west, on the north side of the old schoolhouse hill, and then ran diagonally across to the southwest corner of the present village."

In that house, therefore, the voters of the new township gathered on August 7, 1843, to vote for the first township officers. John J. Schnall, Elisha Hibbard, and Williard Church were chosen judges; and Joseph Jewell and Jason Hibbard were chosen clerks of the election. Eventually, the judges declared that the following named residents had been legally elected: Moses Ayers, Williard Church, and Alonzo Butler, trustees; Joseph Jewell, clerk; William Jewell, treasurer; Elijah Bennett and George Tiffany, constables; Elisha Hibbard and Newell Newton, overseers of the poor.

Ottokee

The greatest event in the history of Dover Township came soon after the erection of Fulton county, in consequence of which Ottokee came into being, and importance, as the county seat. That phase of Dover Township history is dealt with in an earlier chapter, but the hearings before the County Seat Locating Commissioners made it clear that Mortimer D. Hibbard had planned to survey and plat a village at Spring Hill. He laid its claims, as a site for county seat of justice, before the locating commissioners, but the arguments of the "Center" were more convincing and logical; therefore, on May 1, 1850, stakes were driven at the geographical center of the county, and that location designated as the site selected by the locating commissioners. At the suggestion of Colonel D. W. H. Howard it was named Ottokee, to commemorate the connection Indians had with the region, in pre-settlement times, and particularly the association of Ot-to-kee, a noble Indian chieftain, brother, or half-brother, of Wa-se-on, with some of the pioneer settlers. A pen picture of Ottokee can be read in the Clinton Township chapter, the sketch being by Colonel Howard, who was personally acquainted with Ot-to-kee.

The growth and decline of Ottokee is an important part of chapter IV of this current history of Fulton county, and is readily available to the interested reader. Therefore, to avoid tautology, only so much of the vital history of Ottokee as has not yet had place in this work will be written in this chapter.

Business Ottokee

The first merchant in Ottokee was Hosea Day; the next was Ezra Wilcox, and the third was a partnership, George Marks and Ransom Reynolds. Later, the merchants, for more or less short periods, were Oppenheimer, Eliakim Stowe, John Sigsby, Warner Lott Samuel O. Warren, Henry Herreman, Peter Lott, George Goulden, Charles F. Handy, George B. Merrill and David K. Numbers. In 1887, Brown's "Gazetteer" recorded that "Ottokee, the county seat.....has one hotel, three stores, court house, jail, and county offices," also stating that the following made up the entire business personnel of Ottokee at that time: Truman H. Brown, attorney at law, and clerk of the

court of common pleas; Albert B. Canfield, county treasurer; Osias Merrill, county auditor; Wm. H. Stevens, recorder; Jacob C. Hoffmire, sheriff; Oliver B. Verity, probate judge; Michael Handy, attorney-at-law, and notary public; William H. Handy, attorney-at-law; Amos Hill, attorney-at-law; Jas. L. Verity, notary public and claim agent; Dr. Henry Herreman, groceries and medicines; Chas. F. Handy, groceries and merchandise; George G. Merrill, grocer, etc.; Charles Hilton, hotelkeeper.

At that time a daily line of stages plied between Wauseon and Adrian, passing through Ottokee, Morey's Corners, and Morenci, fare for full distance being $1.50.

Dr. Herreman was the first postmaster in the Ottokee district, that is to say, he was the first Dover Township resident to hold the post-

IN THE 'SIXTIES, A DAILY LINE OF STAGES PLIED BETWEEN WAUSEON AND ADRIAN, PASSING THROUGH OTTOKEE.

mastership of the office which later was called Ottokee. At that time it was located in Pike Township, 3 miles further east, and was called the Essex postoffice. Hosea Day was the first postmaster, after the name had been changed to Ottokee.

Ottokee, during the years of its county importance, had one or more newspapers. These are referred to in the Press chapter.

The first hotel in Ottokee was conducted by William Jones. These public houses were in no wise drinking saloons; they were houses of call, rest, and accommodation for travellers, and although spirits were sold, the prime purpose was that of entertaining and lodging visitors. Consequently, hotel keepers were, as a rule, men of standing in the community; and Fulton county records show that some of the most

capable and respected of the pioneers were hotel keepers. Michael Handy, who lived in Pike Township, near Ottokee, was a justice of the peace, a pioneer teacher, was county school examiner, and prosecuting attorney of Fulton county, was a man of distinct capability and high character; yet, for more than a decade he kept a hotel. His son, Judge Wm. H. Handy, a few years ago wrote:

"I can remember when my father kept tavern on the old home farm, and Uncle Bot Howard kept tavern east of him. (It was in Robert A. Howard's house that the first court of Fulton county was held.) And of all the emigrants and teamsters between Maumee and the west who so frequently stopped with us, men who were compelled to travel through that new country on roads that nature built, and did all of their milling and their trading in Lucas county's first capital. I have not forgotten when a three-cent piece would buy a drink of whisky out of the bottle, kept in the always-locked cupboard. And when business was dull, the landlord would sit in the bar-room, and mend shoes for his neighbors."

Judge Handy referred to his father as a shoemaker, perhaps to describe the simple life of the typical landlord. His father was a very capable educator, and taught school each winter for twenty-one years, twelve of them in Fulton county. Michael Handy himself, in the Wauseon "Republican" of March 29, 1884, stated that he "succeeded well" at hotel-keeping, adding however that "hotel bills were not so high as now." In amplification he wrote:

"Then, we charged a man six cents for a bed, one shilling for a meal; kept a team to hay overnight and the man his supper, breakfast and lodging for four shillings. When we had county conventions, and other large public gatherings on special occasions, bill was two shillings for dinner."

Judge W. H. Handy, in one of his reminiscences made reference to two Ottokee hotels, of the fifties, one on the north side, possessing a sign "Hotel by H. Taylor," and Stow's Hotel on the south side. The north side hotel was that opened by William Jones; Henry Taylor succeeded him as landlord. The other hotel was first opened in 1853, by Ezra Wilcox, and according to Verity successive landlords were David Fairchilds, Lewis Breese, and Dr. W. C. Robinson. It was closed in, about, the year 1859.

Regarding Stow's show, which advertised Ottokee in many parts of Ohio, if not in other states in the 'fifties, Wm. H. Handy wrote:

"I spoke of Stow's show a while ago. Oh! There was where we had it on Delta and Wauseon, although Wauseon was not much at that time—just a little burg in the woods. . Stow's show, that great moral and intellectual combination of unparalled genius, costing I don't remember how many thousand dollars for materials. It was indeed a great institution. In the spring, it would start out in all the glory of new painted wagons, and in the fall would come back to winter in old Ottokee. If the season had been prosperous, old Ottokee was prosperous. If the season had been a hard one, Ottokee would be less prosperous. But Stows would work hard all winter to get enough for next spring's start, and they always made it in some way. They had a good show, too. There were the Indians many of you will remember, Kim and Osceola; and then West Stow, the old clown, and Hat Stow, the limber man, and

John Stow and wife, singers; Minerva, with the famous highland fling, and that famous song of her's 'Roy's wife'; and Like, the boss. They gave us a great show for a small admittance, and they showed all they advertised. And when they wintered in old Ottokee, at Stow's tavern with some of their performers, don't you remember that they all behaved themeslves like respectable citizens. They also had a magician.. ..And Currier's band; wasn't it really great?

"Many will recall the time when the Indians were in the tent, giving their part of the performance, and Uncle Dres. Howard sat on one of the back seats, and gave a war whoop, which he could give as well as the Sioux. How it even scared the Indians.....They had a great war song, those Indians, which we boys all learned. It ran something like this:

"Unonda! Unonda! Unonda! Unonda!
Wa-hoo-yah! Wa-hoo-yah!
Unonda! Unonda!

"When they sang that we kids had all we could do to keep our hair on our heads."

The early physicians of Dover Township, who, when Ottokee became the county seat, centered their practice from that place were Drs. Blaker, Hyde, McCann, Gurley, Worden, DeLano, Herriman and Robinson. Dr. Blaker was the pioneer physician.

Ottokee during the last four decades has been the home of an important county institution, the Fulton County Infirmary, latterly designated the Fulton County Home. It uses the ground formerly occupied by the Court House, the Infirmary being organized soon after the removal of the seat of justice from Ottokee to Wauseon, and the consequent vacating of the Court House buildings at Ottokee. These were used to house the personnel and inmates of the Infirmary. Later, about three hundred acres of contiguous land were purchased, so that by its tillage by the inmates of the Infirmary that institution might be made self-sustaining, or partly so. The history of the Fulton County Home is reviewed in the Institutional chapter of this volume.

Ottokee is essentially one of the historic spots of Fulton county, and in recollection is very dear to many of its older residents. Periodically, the former residents gather in the old place to renew pleasurable memories of long ago. It is the center of a conference of teachers year after year, and latterly each year has brought a reunion of teachers and pupils of Ottokee School. of 1850-70. For one such reunion, that of 1913, Mrs. Roxea (familiarly shortened to "Rock") Handy Rice, a daughter of Michael Handy, wrote some entertaining verse, entitled "Old Times in Ottokee." In part it reads:

"While we are gathered here today, I, in a vision, see
Some things which happened long ago, in good old Ottokee.

* * * * * * *

Now, as I look back to those days, when we were young and gay,
So many scenes flit through my thoughts, I know not what to say,

* * * * * * *

Protracted meetings, spelling school, and circus had their day,
And picnics for the Sunday School, there was a grand array

Of seeded cakes and pyramids, all made by our mothers—
I doubt if ever, since that time there's been their like in others—
And then the dances, where the bunch were pretty sure to go,
To try 'the light fantastic' to music made by Stow;
I now remember well a time when 'Shakers' were in style,
And we all wore them up to church, and marched in single file.
Dame Fashion never beat us out, no matter on what line,
Even when she came in great hoops made from yes, the wild grape vine.
Although throughout the summer days, we all with pleasure flirted
When revivals opened in the fall we were there to be converted;
The young folks now think we were green, and badly out of date,
But our fun was of a cleaner grade than that we read of late—
The 'Bear Dance' and the 'Turkey Trot,' and all that sort of slime
So popular among the young, to us would seem a crime—
Few scandals grew from out our ranks; through some good cause or other,
'White slavery' was an unknown term, and 'dope fiend' was another.
Ah, well! those days have long since gone; grim death has claimed his share,
And now the few who may remain are scattered everywhere;
Left from the crowd of gay young hearts, so happy in that day,
Are many bent and withered forms, toothless and bald, and gray,
Who await the final summons, and whenever it shall be,
May the future yield the happiness we enjoyed in Ottokee."

Spring Hill

The village of Spring Hill had its inception, perhaps, in the meeting, at the house of Mortimer D. Hibbard, on February 1, 1844, "of gentlemen from Maumee and Angola and along the road," to consider "the expediency of putting a line of stages on this road, between the two places." The quoted words are those extracted from the diary of Mrs. Mortimer D. Hibbard, who also recorded the decision of the gentlemen to establish such a line. Spring Hill was presumably to be a stopping place, and apparently the projectors of the stage route sought to interest the people of the western settlement of Dover in the project so that travellers might be sure of accommodation at Spring Hill, while en route west, or east. That the Hibbard family planned to establish a village, or expected that a village would develop at Spring Hill, is clear, from a diary entry of April 20, 1844, when Mrs. Hibbard wrote: "Took a walk to the village of Spring Hill that is to be;" and on July 4th the settlers in the vicinity evidently gathered there for Fourth of July exercises, Mrs. Hibbard recording on July 5th: "Had a pleasant celebration here yesterday. They raised a liberty pole, seventy-five feet high, with stars and stripes."

Nothing further in the matter of town planning, ,or of intention to plan, is on record, regarding Spring Hill, until the organization of Fulton county, in 1850, when the claims of Spring Hill, as a site for the county seat, were considered by the locating commissioners. Ottokee was decided upon, and Mortimer D. Hibbard was elected county auditor. At the next election, however, he was succeeded by Judge A. C. Hough. When the next spring opened, Mr. Hibbard seems to have decided to carry out his original intention, Mrs. Hibbard

recording on March 18, 1851: "Mortimer had his village of Spring Hill surveyed today." Their daughter, Miss Marie A. Hibbard, who has resided in Spring Hill all her life, is perhaps the person best fitted to tell the history of Spring Hill. She writes.

"The little unincorporated village was surveyed and platted March 25, 1851. It occupies a part of the large tract of land willed by Ambrose Rice to his two grand-nephews, Oscar and Jason Rice Hibbard.....

"In addition to the plat of the main village, north of the so-called Maumee and Angola road a row of lots, on the south side, was taken from the farm of T. B. Walters, the farm now occupied by Mr. Everett Spring.

"The original plat gives names of first purchasers of lots, as follows: Justus Wright, J. C. Hoffmire, Dr. N. W. Jewell, Jesse and John Struble, Michael Maloney, R. C. Shepherd, David Ely, and David Davis. The four central lots on which the brick schoolhouse now stands were given by Mr. Hibbard for a public square. He also gave the lot for the frame schoolhouse, now used as a residence, at the southwest corner of the village.....

"In the first years of the village a brown frame building on the south side was kept as a tavern by Daniel Struble, Mr. Stevens, Garrett Rittenhouse, James Ronk, and others in succession.

"T. B. Walters, Jason Hibbard, and later Augustus and Edwin Howard were the first merchants. Michael Maloney had his blacksmith shop at the southwest corner of the village.

"William Harris, and later James Gillett, had wagon shops on the south side. James Way had a carding and grist mill on the north side of the village. It burned, and R. C. Shepard built another, farther to the west. The old tannery, southeast of the village, was run by the Struble brothers, Jacob and Henry. Mr. Wickham had a tailor shop on the north side.

"Dr. Hyde, Dr. Jewell, and later Dr. R. C. Ely cared for the sick .....Mr. William Jewell built the house now used as a Methodist parsonage. Rev. Ralph Carter, brother of Mrs. J. C. Aldrich, built the little house used many years as a parsonage, west of the Christian Church. The house south of the school ground was begun by David Ely, and finished by M. D. Hibbard, who occupied it many years. A part of it only remains. The house directly south of it was built by T. B. Walters, and the one to the west by R. C. Shepherd. Of all the first houses, built in the early fifties, but one remains in possession of the man who built it. The large house built by Milton Spring, at the extreme end of the village, is still owned by his daughter, Mrs. Ellen Anderson, the only remaining one of his children. The oldest daughter died in early womanhood. The three sons all served in the Civil War. Mrs. Anderson has the love and gratitude of many of her old pupils and Sunday School scholars.....

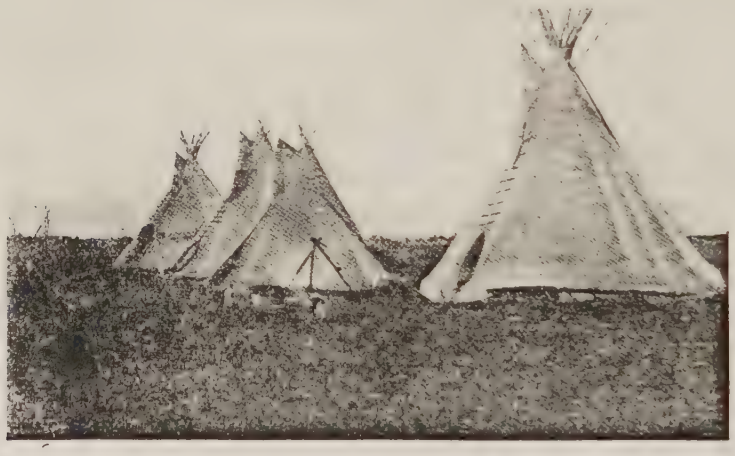
"Of the patriotism of the people one need not speak. Dover Township was one of very few where no draft was necessary during the Civil War. Her young men, many of them mere boys, came thronging into the ranks. Good soldiers they were, too; none braver, or better."

The above-quoted historical narrative was written by Miss Hibbard in 1916, or 1917, and published in the "Fulton County Tribune." With a desire only to supplement it, data collected from other sources is given. Mrs. Maddox, daughter of C. M. Spring, states that:

"Mr. Hibbard laid out the town of Spring Hill, with a public square which was intended for the Court House Square. There the schoolhouse is now located, and to that square Mr. Hibbard, by means of a hydraulic ram, forced water from the spring at the foot of the hill just east of the village.

"From these springs and small hills the town received its name. One large spring, which later was made into a fish pond by C. M. Spring, furnished water for the family washings of the early settlers, who came to the same on washday, and hung a kettle, in which they heated water. On the farm almost one mile east of Spring Hill, where Rev. Elisha Hibbard lived, was the site of an Indian village."

Judge Verity, in his history of Dover Township, states that Mortimer Hibbard was the first merchant at Spring Hill, he "opened the first store of goods, upon a small scale, at a very early day," adding that "he was followed by Thomas Walters, and afterwards by William Jewell, Robert Shepherd, Francis Laudersdale and Son," whose store was



THE ELISHA HIBBARD FARM JUST EAST OF SPRING HILL WAS THE SITE OF AN INDIAN VILLAGE.

"burned out" in 1860. The only saw mill in the township was built about one mile west of Spring Hill, in 1853, by Burdick Burtch, who a few years later sold to Daniel Kahle. His son, James Kahle, added a cane crusher and evaporator to the plant. The grist mill at Spring Hill was established in 1857 or 1858, and destroyed by fire in 1860. It was rebuilt, but eventually removed.

The Spring family was associated with Spring Hill almost from its establishment. "It was in 1853 that Milton Spring and family drove into Spring Hill. At that time there were in the village three thriving stores and a hotel. The Spring family had visited an uncle in Chesterfield Township, and were on their way west, they knew not where. Reaching Spring Hill, the people of the town gathered around the wagons, and urged them to settle in their thriving new town," states a family record, which continues: "Uncle Tommie Walters, who was keeping store in the building standing on the northeast corner of the main corners of the town, offered them two upstairs

front rooms, free of charge, the use of which they accepted. Later Milton Spring bought lots in Morenci, and planned to build there, but sold his lots and bought in Spring Hill, where he built the home in which he died," in 1888, at the age of eighty-two years. Milton Spring "was a man of unusual strength, and indomitable energy"; he was also a man of strong moral character. For fifty years he was prominent in church work, being one of the leading members of the Spring Hill M. E. Church. His wife, a worthy woman, reached the age of ninety-four years. All of their male children (3) served in the Union army during the Civil war, an enviable family record. Of the three sons, Cornelius M. was probably the most prominent in public affairs. He died in 1916, sixty-three of his seventy-three years having been lived in Fulton county. He lived a busy public-spirited and high-minded life; was treasurer of Dover Township for twelve years; and for many years was on the School Board. But most noteworthy of his public service was that in connection with the Methodist church at Spring Hill. He was superintendent of the Sunday school for forty years, and even after he took up residence in Wauseon, he would drive to Spring Hill Sunday after Sunday for that purpose. In early manhood, he was a school teacher, but he became a successful farmer and a cheese manufacturer on a large scale. His younger brother, N. C., died in 1917, at Tedrow, aged sixty-five years.

Schools

Mrs. Hibbard's diaries record much of pioneer school history. Entries made in June, 1839, refer to the sending of her two older children to school "for the first time"; and one would infer that there were no school facilities in the western part of Dover (then Clinton) Township earlier than that. It appears that Caroline Seamans was the teacher, and that the school was held in a room in the Ferguson house just north of the site of the present village. Miss Hibbard is of the opinion that "it was the first school in the township of Dover, not then formed, and was probably a subscription school." Under date of December 19, 1840, a diary entry reads: "There is a new schoolhouse built half a mile south of here. Mortimer (Hibbard) commenced teaching today." Describing that schoolhouse, Miss Hibbard writes: "This log schoolhouse.....was probably the first in what is now Dover Township. It stood on a hill, now much worn down, on what is now Lot No. 1, in Spring Hill, owned by Mr. Everett Spring. It is described as having low windows, a slab floor, a wide fireplace on the west side, opposite the door, benches made of slabs, with pegs for legs, and desks made by driving boards across pegs driven into the wall. The pens were fashioned by the master's pen knife, from goose quills brought by the children. The lead pencils for ruling the writing paper were made by hammering a piece of lead into the required shape. These were usually attached to a string worn about the neck for convenience. The books were a varied assortment, the blue-covered 'Elementary Speller' figuring predominantly."

"The teachers who taught in that schoolhouse, as far as mentioned in the journal, were Michael Handy, William Jewell, Henry

Tiffany, Andros Canfield, Huldah Howe, Sophronia Deming, Amelia, Randolph and Mortimer Hibbard." Verity, stated, also, that the Hibbards, Canfield, and Handy, "and many others, taught as good common schools as was generally found at that day." Male teachers received a salary of from $10 to $13 a month, and women teachers from $6 to $8 a week. In addition they received free board and lodging, being "boarded around," as was termed the practice of the residents to receive into their homes, for a week or two of free entertainment, the teacher of the district school, who would pass similar periods, as non-paying guest, in other houses until the school term ended. The school term was customarily only for three winter months, the greater number of the male teachers pursuing agriculture during the growing season, when also the older pupils spent part of their time in the fields, assisting in the work of the home farm.

Soon after the organization of Dover Township, in 1843, two school districts were formed, one in the western part, which would be Spring Hill, and the other in the eastern settlement, which was at the Center, or near to where Ottokee eventually developed. In April, 1846, the township trustees divided the township into four school districts: No. 1, at what became Ottokee; No. 2, at Chatfield's Corners, where the "Emery" postoffice was established "at a very early date, with Lucius N. Chatfield, postmaster"; No. 3, in the northwestern corner of the township, later known as Union School District; and No. 4, at Spring Hill. No. 2 District became the Waid District. It was not long before No. 5 District became necessary, and this being central, was used for township elections for one or two decades. No. 6 District, in the northeastern part of the township was organized in 1864. In 1876, the Spring Hill District, No. 4, by a special act of the State Legislature was set apart as a separate district, and a brick schoolhouse was built. The log schoolhouse at Spring Hill was replaced in 1851 by a frame schoolhouse, which was located at the southwest corner of the village, that house being still occupied, as a residence. The site was donated by Mortimer D. Hibbard, who also gave the four lots upon which the brick schoolhouse was eventually built. At one time a "large square frame building, originally erected on the farm of William Culbertson, a mile or so south of the village," and used by the Christian Church society for many years, was eventually adapted to the requirements of a high school.

Dover Township has not since increased the number of school districts, but it has of course progressed, in the same ratio as has been the advancement in education, in length of session and extent of curricula, in other like schools of Fulton county. As at present constituted, the school facilities of Dover Township consist of five one-room elementary schools. Tedrow (or Spring Hill) is a separate rural district, serving about fifty pupils, and having a two-room schoolhouse. The other five schoolhouses, with furnishings and equipment, are valued at $8,950, and have an enrollment of about 160 scholars.

The 1920 Board of Education of Dover Township is: William Windisch, president; J. H. Bailey, clerk; Fred Clark, Frank Bowers, V. S. Spring, and C. F. Bell, directors. The Board of Education of the Tedrow Special District is: H. J. Grimes, president; Dr. Evers, clerk; O. M. Eldredge and M. L. Ernst, directors.

Cemeteries

The cemeteries of Dover are administered by the township trustees. The oldest cemetery probably is the Ayers Cemetery, which is supposed to have been "laid off for burial purposes.....at the very beginning of its settlement, or as soon as 1838." Ottokee Cemetery comes next, having been laid out in 1846. Betsy Knapp, wife of Archie W. Knapp, was buried in it in June, 1846, and in 1853 it was organized as the Ottokee Cemetery. Spring Hill Cemetery was organized in, about, 1860; and it is believed that Oscar A. Hibbard, son of Mortimer D. Hibbard, was the first person interred in it.

Churches

The early settlers of Dover Township, and for that matter of Fulton county, were fundamentally religious; and undoubtedly as settlements grew, religious gatherings formed in the log cabin of one of the settlers who were of the same sect. Because William Jones was the first settler in that part of York, later Clinton Township, which came within the bounds of Dover eventually, and because it is on record that he sometimes preached "for the Disciples, there then being a few of that faith in Clinton Township on the south," we may perhaps give the Disciples of Christ society the distinction of having been the first to form an organization in Dover Township, although the United Brethren, under Alonzo H. Butler and John Bowser, formed an organization "at a very early date"; and the Methodist Episcopal society at Spring Hill dates back to 1842, in which year also services conducted by members of the New Church, or Swedenborgian society, were held in Dover.

The Disciples, or the Church of Christ society, in Dover, beginning with the activities of William Jones, were brought to a concrete state of definite church organization in 1841, through the efforts of Moses Ayers, as has been stated earlier in this chapter. The Rev. Benjamin Alton, of DeKalb county, Indiana, came at his invitation, and preached to settlers gathered in the home of Moses Ayers. It resulted in the formation of the Disciples at "Brush Creek, Lucas county, now Spring Hill, Fulton county," on March 1, 1841, that society having at organization seventeen members. Miss Hibbard writes: "Services were held regularly, though they had no settled pastor for some years. In the spring of 1853, they erected a frame building on the farm of William Culbertson, in Clinton Township. In the spring of 1855, that building was removed to a lot given them by M. D. Hibbard, in the northern part of Spring Hill, being the first church building in that village, and, as I believe, the first in Dover Township. The wooden building removed to Spring Hill in 1855 had, as its first settled incumbent, Reverend Topliffe, who was followed later by Rev. L. L. Carpenter, Zephaniah W. Shepherd, L. B. Smith, and others. In the winter of 1881-82, the old church gave place to a new one of brick, Rev. E. T. Hayes being pastor at that time. In both Christian and Methodist churches of Spring Hill, regular services and Sunday schools are now held." Miss Hibbard, wrote in 1916, of Spring Hill churches and Sunday schools, stating that "Spring Hill was favored with many fine teachers in its early days. Tradition will keep alive the names of Thomas Williams, Gavari Burtch, David Ayers, Sarah Guilford, John

R. Deming, Joseph D. Aldrich, and many others." Of them, Miss Hibbard wrote: "Did they realize the influence they were exerting on the lives of some of their pupils? Faithful, competent, conscientious teachers! May the sod rest lightly over their true hearts."

Verity records that, in 1847, Elder Hosea Day organized a Christian church at Ottokee, "with a fair membership, which in later years, for want of pastoral service, lost their identity, and finally consolidated with the Disciples, who were quite prominent over the whole township." Verity adds that "in 1858, the Disciples, under the labors of Elder L. L. Carpenter, formed an organization at Ottokee, which in after years, like the Christian denomination, became disintegrated and was merged into the Wauseon and Spring Hill societies." The Disciples churches at Wauseon and Spring Hill are now known as Churches of Christ, or Christian churches. What difference there was between the original Christian society of Ottokee and the Disciples organization headed by L. L. Carpenter has not been defined. L. L. Carpenter was, perhaps, one of the most powerful and effective pioneer ministers of the Disciple, or Christian, church in Fulton county. Miss Olive Roos, formerly of Chesterfield Township, and now of Wauseon, wrote a review of the Christian churches some years ago, and regarding L. L. Carpenter she stated:

"Perhaps no other one person who had to do with the establishment of the Churches of Christ in this section was more widely known, or more highly esteemed, than L. L. Carpenter.....In 1857 he commenced preaching in Fulton and Williams counties.....baptized a great many and organized many churches.....and in 1862 he was county treasurer.....During all the time he lived in Ottokee, he preached nearly every Sunday, and as he kept no horse, he was obliged to walk to all his appointments. The country was very new and the roads afforded better walking than driving over the logs and swales, although he sometimes went on horseback. On one Lord's Day he had three appointments (morning, afternoon, and night, in far distant meeting houses). As the roads were very rough, he started on foot at 6 o'clock, in the morning, and walked to the first place, a distance of twelve miles; after preaching there, he walked to his second appointment, a distance of two miles, and after preaching there he walked a distance of six miles, preaching at 7 o'clock in the evening (in Chesterfield), and walking home the next morning, reaching his office at Ottokee by 9 o'clock."

The lot of the pioneer preacher was perhaps even more arduous than that of the pioneer teacher; but they both lived in a time, and district, when and where life in general was arduous, mode of living simple, and money scarce.

Zephaniah W. Shepherd, came with his parents to Spring Hill in 1852, being then fourteen years old. In 1858, when twenty years old, he was preaching the gospel, and had mastered the German language so that he was able to teach and preach in German in German Township. He eventually went into Chesterfield Township, and from there to Michigan, organizing many churches.

At one time, there was a prospect of a new church, or Swedenborgian, society being organized in Dover. Rev. Elisha Hibbard, and his son, John Randolph Hibbard, D. D., were of that sect. Mrs. Hibbard, in her diary, records having attended one such meeting on August 22,

1841. The meeting place was in the home of her father-in-law, Rev. Elisha Hibbard, one mile east of Spring Hill. The sermon was preached by her brother-in-law, J. R. Hibbard. Mrs. Hibbard wrote: "Heard a sermon by brother Randolph, the first New Chuch sermon I ever heard." Dr. Hibbard later removed to Chicago, where for many years he was pastor of the Swedenborgian Church Society. Miss Hibbard writes: "I do not know that any New Church society was organized in Fulton county, though there were a number of that faith, and both John Randolph Hibbard and his father, Rev. Elisha Hibbard, officiated at marriages, christenings, and funerals, and frequently held services in the homes of different families."

The activities of the United Brethren Church seems to have begun, so far as Dover Township territory is concerned, in the endeavors of John Bowser and Alonzo H. Butler. Miss Hibbard, by research in her mother's diaries, has been enabled to state that "The members of the United Brethren Church, of Dover, first held their services in schoolhouses, as did also the Methodists and Baptists. In the spring of 1861, the Brethren had a frame building erected on a lot given them for that purpose, in the northeastern part of the village of Spring Hill. M. D. Hibbard gave this lot. The church was used by the Methodists, as well as by the Brethren, after its dedication by Rev. C. Briggs, June 30, 1861." She adds: "That old frame church long since was destroyed, and there is now one Brethren church in the township, that of North Dover, some miles northeast of the village. Among the residents who had charge of the old Spring Hill church were Rev. John Fiske and Rev. T. Osmun." The United Brethren Society at North Dover was organized in, about, 1882, by the Reverend Bartlett, and during his period in charge a small church building was erected, which presumably is the one still used for worship.

The Methodist Episcopal Society, at Spring Hill had its inception, probably, in 1842, and for a while held meetings in the log schoolhouse just east of Spring Hill. Prominent early members were James Gay, Mr. and Mrs. Newell Warren, Mr. and Mrs. Ebenezer Fuller, Mr. and Mrs. Newell Newton, Mr. and Mrs. Isaac Tedrow, Mr. and Mrs. Peter Lott. In the '60s, the Methodists used the U. B. church for most of their services. In 1887, a frame church building was erected at Spring Hill, the dedicatory services being held on August 7th, by Reverends Belt, Fitzwater, and Gordon.

The Methodist Episcopal Society in the Ottokee neighborhood was organized in 1857. In 1863, it had only eight members. In 1868, the membership was twenty-seven; yet, soon afterwards the members considered the erection of a church building. On April 24, 1875, the following trustees were elected "to hold the church property at Ottokee": John Hoffman, T. Todd, Joseph Shadle, J. M. Gillett, Joseph Shaffer, S. Eldridge, A. Lathrop, and C. F. Handy. It is understood that the church was opened in 1876, and that at the dedicatory services the presiding elder made the announcement that, although at all times the Methodist Episcopal society would reserve for itself priority of title to use the church building, when it was needed for their own services, the church might be used at other times by other church societies and denominations of Ottokee, it being recognized that all residents of Ottokee, irrespective of church affiliations, had subscribed to the building fund with that object in view. There should have been

good public need of such a building, yet, in May, 1882, it was decided to give the trustees of the Ottokee church authority to enter into negotiations to sell the church building "as they might deem advisable, just and right"; and three months later, the church records show that the trustees had filed report stating that they wished the amounts assumed by them to be refunded "provided the church property at Ottokee shall ever be sold"; all of which pointed to an undercurrent of religious differences in Ottokee. This was more evident two years later when the trustees were instructed "to take such action as they deemed necessary to prevent the use of the M. E. church at Ottokee by the Spiritualists, or anything that is detrimental to Christianity." There were quite a few Spiritualists living in and near Ottokee at that time, and bearing in mind the circumstances attending the building of the M. E. church, to which they had subscribed, they had claimed the right to hold services in it. The church building has never been sold, and, as a matter of fact, it has since been used by most of the denominations of the Ottokee district, although it is recognized in this day as the Methodist Episcopal Church, the present pastor of which is L. D. Burgoon.

The most prominent church workers of the Methodist society in Dover Township during the latter half of the nineteenth century were probably Milton Spring, and his son, Cornelius M. Spring. Their noteworthy connection with the church has elsewhere in this chapter been referred to. Others prominent during the same period, as stewards, class-leaders, local preachers, trustees, superintendents, and the like, in the district covered by the Ottokee circuit of the M. E. Church, which circuit included societies at Ottokee, Spring Hill, Pettisville, McCaskey's, Chesterfield, Etna, Ai, Archbold, Pike's Center, and Burlington, were: Michael Handy, Amos Hill, R. C. Ely, Stephen Eldridge, M. Caskey, Moses Jay, Orville Disbrow, J. N. Marsh, I. Jones, Wesley Denison, Joshua Shaffer, Wm. H. Stevens, J. Murphy, James Birch, John Van Arsdale, Stillman Colman, A. Lathrop, J. Hoffman, J. Shadle, T. Todd, O. B. Verity, J. M. Gillett, C. F. Handy, Griffin Cole, Curtis Stoddard, C. Norton, Hiram Clark, J. Johnson, Robert Fowler, Wm. Conklin, Benjamin Skeeles, Jacob Bartlett, Lyman Cook, H. L. Aldrich, Philander Crane, James Howard, Jeff Cole, Wm. Skeels, Geo. Kesler, James Bayes, S. C. Brainard, John Wise, and J. M. Morrison. Preachers in charge were: Revs. W. H. Taylor, V. Pond, Charles Haag, H. Vangurdy, A. M. Cory, M. E. Blizzard, E. A. Berry, D. Bowers, A. D. Newell, A. S. Van Buskirk, H. C. Gavitt, T. H. Hines, W. G. Waters, W. F. Maltbie, E. H Snow, A. Barker, B. T. Gordon. Presiding elders: Elnathan C. Gavitt, Samuel Lynch, T. H. Wilson, T. N. Barkdull, L. A. Belt, P. S. Donaldson, W. G. Waters, and S. L. Roberts. These names are extracted from the official circuit records of the period, 1863-87. Rev. Elnathan Gavitt agreed, at the first conference, in 1863, "to accept the public collection for his support on this circuit," after the meeting of delegates from Spring Hill, Chesterfield, North Chesterfield, Ottokee, McCaskey's, Etna, and Ai, had resolved "that the brethren will try and support preaching among us." Mr. Gavitt was presiding elder, and the preacher-in-charge was to be Wm. H. Taylor, who for serving those small and scattered societies was to receive $230 a year. On September 10, 1864, it was reported that "There is no Sabbath school within the limits of the Ottokee

Circuit, but such as are in a union connection with other denominations." In 1867 there were four union schools. In 1867, a Methodist Sunday school was formed at Ottokee, and a report shortly afterwards noted that there were seven teachers and forty scholars, and that "the school is in a prosperous condition, with a good degree of punctuality of teachers and scholars. The latter do well in reciting Scripture committed to memory." In 1868, the strength of the societies of the circuit were: Spring Hill, 43 members; Chesterfield, 20 members; Morey's Corners, 8 members; Ai, 8 members; Ottokee, 27 members; Etna, 6 members. In 1869 the preacher-in-charge received $375 salary; and the presiding elder, $60. In 1872, the pastor's report to the conference read:

"We found the charge in a very discouraging state; everywhere on the work the conversation was of a discouraging nature. The heart becomes sick. We have been exhorting the friends to trust in God, and expect better times; that the Great Head of the Church would hear and answer the cries of the people."

Despite discouragements, the Methodist Church went forward, built churches at Spring Hill, Ottokee, and other places after that. C. M. Spring was recording secretary of the Ottokee Circuit for many years.

Societies

There appears to be only one fraternal organization at present in Dover Township, namely, the Ottokee Lodge, No. 851, of the Ancient Order of Gleaners of the World. It was organized on August 22, 1904, with barely enough members to fill the chairs, the first chief gleaner being Alfred Savage. Its present strength is about 180, and Roland Frazier is chief gleaner. The Gleaners own their own substantial concrete building at Ottokee. The charter members were Alfred Savage, Frank Shadle, Wm. A. Wentz, William C. Tew, Royal Sturdevant, Elizabeth Savage, Francis A. Mock, Ervin F. Pennington.

Miscellaneous

The first Justice of the Peace elected after the organization of Dover Township, in 1843 (a special election being held for that purpose on August 16th) was Alonzo Knapp, who "entered upon the duties of his office at this place, which was afterwards called Ottokee."

Pottery was made by Eben French, at Chatfield's Corners, in the '40s. He peddled his pottery through the county, and is claimed to have made the first tile manufactured in Fulton county. Joseph Shadle later burned brick, supplying all the brick for the last Ottokee Court House.

The first brick made in Dover Township was supposed to have been by "Long Bill" Jones, in 1839.

Population

The statistics for the first decades of Dover Township, are not available, but from 1870, the figures are: 1870, 930; 1880, 1055; 1890, 1049; 1900, 1171; 1910, 1145; 1920, 990. The last figures are subject to correction, as they are those of the "Preliminary Announcement of Population," as taken in the 1920 census.

CHAPTER XVII

HISTORY OF PIKE TOWNSHIP

Pike Township was one of the first to be settled, notwithstanding that it was not organized under the present township name until 1841. As a matter of fact it was the first township in which white men settled, if one can consider the residence within it, from 1824 to 1833, of John Grey, the Indian trader, legitimate settlement. Still, long before white men came to other parts of the land now within the present bounds of Fulton county, members of the Howard family, which became one of the most prominent in the county, were in the territory trading with the Indians. And in Indian associations, Pike is probably the most historic of the townships of Fulton county.

"Pioneer days in Pike Township" was the subject of an authentic historical review written some years ago by Mrs. Agnes Howard McClarren, of Winameg, daughter of the late Colonel Dresden W. H. Howard. Her sources were so original and the research so carefully undertaken that the review should have place in this chapter, in full. It begins:

"The present limits of Pike Township were, until 1833, north of the Fulton line, under the jurisdiction of the Territory of Michigan. The surveys were made by the authority of Michigan, as early as 1819 or 1820. The county seat was established at Adrian, Lenawee county, Michigan, in December, 1826.

"By a compromise, brought about by the Ohio and Michigan war, which at one time looked serious, but was accompanied by so much of the ludicrous as to lose its seriousness.

"When Michigan became a territory, the people living between the two lines of Michigan and Ohio, known as the Fulton and Harris lines, found it more convenient to be attached to Michigan. The territorial lines were extended over the disputed territory.

"In 1833, it become important that the boundary lines be settled The matter was brought before the legislature, which passed a resolution asking Congress to act upon the subject. In 1835, the matter came before Congress, and J. Q. Adams made an elaborate report against the claims of Ohio, through a committee consisting of A. Palmer, I. W. Comstock, and others. Mr. Palmer was despatched to Columbus with a petition, signed by most of the inhabitants, asking the extension of the laws of Ohio over the disputed territory. An act was soon passed, and the territory was attached to the counties of Wood, Henry, and Williams. This aroused the ire of Michigan, a double set of officers were created, troops were organized under the Monroe county sheriff, and would-be citizens of Ohio were carried off as prisoners of war. Ohio then levied troops, under Governor Lucas.

"Early in 1835, while Governor Lucas was camped at Fort Miami, eight miles above Toledo, Mason (General of the Michigan army)

marched into Toledo, overran the melon patches, devasted the poultry yards, burst in the door of Major Stickney's residence, and carried him off in triumph, a prisoner of war, to Monroe, Michigan. At that time arrived from Washington two ambassadors, with power to negotiate between the belligerents. These were Richard Rush, of Pennsylvani, and Col. Howard, of Maryland. They were successful in their mission, chiefly because Michigan was satisfied with her laurels won, and Ohio was willing to stand on her dignity.

"At the next session of Congress the matter was taken up, and Michigan received as her portion the large peninsular between lakes Huron, Michigan and Superior, now so well known for its rich deposits of copper and other minerals. Ohio received the harbor at Toledo, and a narrow strip of land, extending westward. The importance of this harbor is well-known, for Toledo has become the largest and most prosperous commercial center in northwestern Ohio.

"The existing territory then became the property of Ohio. Lucas county, which adjoined a large portion of the land transferred, was by an act of the Legislature of Ohio, June, 1836, given jurisdiction of same on north limit, and organized the township of Royalton from South Fairfield Township to northern line. All the territory south of Fulton Line included in Pike Township was of Ohio survey, and was for a long time included in the township of York.

"Erection of Pike Township. In March, 1841, the township of Pike was officially organized, by taking from Royalton all of T. 10 south, range 3 east, of Michigan survey, and all of fractional T. 8 north, range 7 east, and one tier of sections off of the north side T. 7 north, range 7 east, and so remained until 1846, when an addition was made by taking from Royalton the south tier of sections of T. 9 south, range 3 east.

"Pike Township, as it now exists, contains about 28 full sections of land, or an area of 17,839 acres. The township's average elevation is 200 feet above Lake Erie. Much of it is an elevated plateau, portions of which are prairie.

"There are no rivers in the township, but a system of ditching and tiling began in 1859, and today about a hundred miles of ditching is done every year, thus converting the soil into a garden susceptible of a high state of cultivation. The soil is well adapted to agriculture, producing wheat, corn, oats, potatoes, and clover in abundance, raising horses, cattle, sheep, hogs, especially cattle for dairy purposes. There need not be a foot of waste land in Pike Township. The real and personal value of property in 1904 was $294,840 and $61,430, respectively. The number of horses 404; cattle, 1350; sheep, 809; hogs, 1352.

"The eastern portion of the township was originally covered with a heavy growth of timber, including white and burr oak, elm, hickory, black walnut, cotton wood, and ocassionally a buckeye may be found along the watercourses. In the western portion, upon which is known in geology as the second beach, has grown, since the land was underdrained, an immense forest of oaks, so that if the present generation will allow it to grow, the oncoming race will not suffer for timber, as in many other localities where the timber has been cut to the last tree.

"Prehistoric Pike. The first inhabitants of this region, many years before the 'Paleface' came, or Pike Township existed, were the

Indians, and presumably their more ancient brethren, the mound builders, whose camping ground was on the bank of Bad Creek, near what is known as Aetna, or Winameg, on the home farm of the late Dresden W. H. Howard. Its fine springs furnished an abundance of pure water, in its mellow soil they could raise their corn; to its creek banks came the beautiful deer and other game; and upon the high ridge was a suitable place for their dead to rest. Here, it might be mentioned that, Chief Winameg, the last of the Pottawatomies, was buried, in this historic soil, near the gigantic Council Oak, at the foot of the hill.

"Archæologically, this locality is of much interest, as the researches by Judge Wm. Handy, in 1892, proved beyond a doubt. There are mounds located on the farm containing the house, orchard, and immediate grounds of Dresden W. H. Howard, in extent about five acres; and these mounds when opened showed evidences in their construction and material of a race long since passed out of existence. The Indians told my father: 'No man knew when they were built, or by

PIKE TOWNSHIP WAS GOOD SHEEP COUNTRY.

whom;' and they used the ground as a burial place, because of its dry and elevated location.

"The First Trading Post. The first trading post was built for the protection of the fur trader, and his goods, against drunken Indians, for even then whisky was used as an element of destruction by renegade whites, or half-breed outlaws. These posts were usually built very strongly, of hewn logs of large size, with puncheon floors and roof and heavy doors. This one was built in 1831, or 1832, by Edwin Howard, father of Dresden W. H. Howard, and was located near the Indian village of Winameg. It was furnished with a stock of goods of British manufacture, consisting of red and green blankets, with black stripes across the ends, Turkey red calico, with merrimac blues, large cotton handkerchiefs of gay colors, guns, tomahawks, butcher knives, powder, shot, lead balls, brass trinkets, rings, wampum, beads, silver brooches, nose and ear rings, Turkish vermilion, to paint their faces, fine saddles, and silver ornamented bridles. These were the chief articles of

exchange for the beautiful furs of deer, bear, wolf, otter, muskrat, raccoon, red and silver-gray fox and an ocassional beaver, these last-named having nearly all disappeared, the last one being caught by a Pottawatomie chief, on the banks of the little St. Joseph, in 1837, and for which he was paid twenty dollars in goods.

"The prices paid for these furs were: bear, $4.00; otter, $4.00; deer, $1.50; silver fox, 25 to 75 cents; raccoon, fox and mink, from 30 to 50 cents.

"For several years the post carried on a flourishing business, but when the government began to agitate the removal of the Indians westward, trade fell off, and the old house became a tavern, for the accommodation of the traveller on his westward journey, and was one of the best-known land-marks of northwestern Ohio until it was destroyed by fire, in 1879.

AT WINAMEG TRADING POST. THE PELT OF A FOX WAS WORTH FROM THIRTY TO FIFTY CENTS.

"Another store was kept at the home of Robert A. Howard, by one Jennings, in 1835, afterwards sold to 'Jack' Hobart, and run in connection with an ashery. This was abandoned in 1850. Dan Knowles also had a store and ashery at an early date. A store was established at Winameg in 1861, and has continued until the present time (1904), although run by different parties, viz: Hinkle and Downer, of Lyons; Frank Knosco, who at one time had a stock valued at $7,000; W. L. Campbell; and LaSalle Brothers.

"The First Settlers. The first settlers were Valentine Winslow, Eli Phillips, and David Hobart, who came in the spring and summer of 1833. Valentine Winslow located on what was known as the Chet Herrick farm, later owned by Fred. Knapp, where he lived about two years. He then moved about two miles farther east, where his son, Valentine, still lives. He died in 1858. Valentine is supposed to have

built the first log house, located on the Chet Herrick farm. It was a double log house with roofed driveway between, and was afterwards used a short time as a schoolhouse.

"In conversation with an old settler, I find there is quite a difference of opinion as to name and date of first white settler, in what is now Pike Township. The first white man who settled in the, then, wilderness was John Grey, who came in 1824, and built a log cabin on what is now the Herman Tappan farm. It is not known whether he had a family, but he built the cabin, and traded whisky to the Indians for their furs as is usual in such cases, and it brought about it own punishment. He got into trouble with the Indians, who threatened his life, and he left the country in 1833. It is doubtful if he was anything more than an adventurer, who in order to live in disregard to all law and order, wandered into the, then, wilderness, without any desire to make a home, or becoming a law-abiding citizen. A drawing of the log cabin is owned by Jacob H. Tappan, of Toledo, and is quite picturesque as being the first log cabin in Pike Township.

"David Hobart is said to be the next settler, coming in the fall of 1833, or the spring of 1834. In 1834 came A. Knight, Nathan Wilson, Daniel Knowles, John Sindel, George Wiers, and Whitefield Tappan.

"In 1835 Peter Scott, William Griffin, Sewel Gunn, Thomas Silsby, the 'village blacksmith,' Robert Howard, and Jack Hobart.

"In 1836, Peter Salsbury located a large tract of land in the southeast part of the township, where many of his descendants still live.

"In 1837 came a still larger immigration, Alva Wilson, Henry Slagle, Joseph Walters, Emery and Martin Wilson, Peola Allwood, Ephraim K. and Joseph Allwood, Thomas Cole, George Megarah, Andrew Faylor, George and Jacob McQuillin, David and Joseph Salsbury, James Viers, Adam Klein, Wm. Cox, Samuel Allen, one Graham and one Thompson, with quite large families. This addition soon began to take interest in the welfare of the young township, by establishing churches, schools, and roads.

"From 1837 to 1840 came David McQuilling, George Gallagher, David Zimmerman, John Miller, Lucius Taylor, Chester Herrick, William Fewless, Thomas Hoxie, David Pelton, Boyd and Robert Dunbar, Michael Handy, Moses Tappan, Andrew and Samuel Dennis.

"In 1843 came Dr. William Holland, the first physician, Simeon Elliott, first Protestant Methodist minister, William Mullen, Joseph Shaffer, and John Whittaker.

"These are among the principal pioneers who endured dangers and privations and made for themselves and families homes of comfort and luxury.

"The Court House in Pike. In 1850, the county was organized, with the seat of justice at Robert A. Howard's. Many were the ludicrous and pathetic scenes enacted there until 1851, when the county seat was established in Ottokee. Robert A. Howard was the first justice of the peace, holding the office for fifteen years.

"Township Records. The township was organized in 1841, but the first record of officers of which we can get a list is as follows: The annual election of Pike Township was held at the house of William Mullen, April 4, 1853. The judges of election were Andrew Faylor, Valentine Winslow, and Whitefield Tappan. Election clerks were A. A. Howard and Wm. Graham. Township trustees were Andrew Fay-

lor, Whitefield Tappan, and Erastus Cowles. William Critz was elected clerk; Daniel Knowles, treasurer; David Salsbury, assessor; David Fairchilds and James Viers, constables.

"The First Frame House. The first frame house in the township was built by Dr. Holland in 1837, or 1838. It is still standing, although it has been somewhat remodelled. The second and third frame houses were built in 1840 by J. Sindel and Dresden Howard, respectively, also the house on the Isbell farm, by Jacob Cox.

"Church History. In the third farm house built were held the first religious gatherings in the township, conducted by the Rev. Johnson, a Presbyterian. These meetings were held in different houses of the neighborhood, as most convenient, the homes of Thomas Silsby and of Widow Graham being oftenest used. Primitive indeed were these meetings, but true Christian hearts beat beneath the coarse homespun; surely, 'where a few are gathered together in My name, there will I be also.' Ministerial work in those early days was pursued under much difficulty and small salary, if any. They were circuit ministers, at a salary of perhaps a hundred dollars a year, travelling on horseback under all conditions of weather, blinding storms, and fording swollen streams, without road or guide but they 'blazed trees' through an unbroken wilderness. They preached in the log cabins, often carrying a package of quinine or other medicine, and a log salt, to relieve the 'ague-shaking' sufferers on their journey.

"As new settlers came, the need of a church grew greater, so the first church in the township was built in 1846, on the farm of William Mullen, near Winameg, now owned by Estell L. Sindel. It was a neat frame structure, quite commodious, only without seats, except as boards were laid across poles. Later, Dresden Howard furnished the lumber, Jesse Taylor the paint; and Theodore Johnson, a carpenter of early date, was employed to construct good high-backed seats, much more comfortable than the first. All through the winter, I can well remember, as a little girl, searching in vain for a soft spot in which to go to sleep during the long preaching hours. This church, dedicated as a Presbyterian, was for many years used as a Union church until it was destroyed by fire in 1868, or 1869. Many were those weary with life's long journey, or those whose tiny feet grew tired by the wayside, carried through its wellworn doorway. There was but one wedding which ever gladdened the hearts in the old church. This was the marriage of Edward Sindel and Miss Nancy Tappan, January 17, 1864, Elder L. L. Carpenter performing, in his impressive manner, the solemn ceremony.

"The first trustees of the church were James Dickson and Whitefield Tappan, long since passed away, and Lucius Taylor still living, although quite aged.

"School History. The schoolhouse and church go hand in hand, The first school was taught in 1835, in the log hut located on the Thomas Silsby farm, by Elizabeth Trowbridge, who afterwards became the wife of William Fewless. She is remembered as a woman of strong character. She believed in social advancement, and the influence of religious living. The schoolhouse was later removed to where the Salsbury cemetery now is, afterwards returned to Thomas Silsby's Corners, where it now remains, under the name of the Pike Center school.

"The first winter school was taught by Michael Handy, a young and rising attorney. He had been admitted to the bar in 1850, and was a lawyer of good standing until his death, in 1886. He was at one time prosecuting attorney of the county.

"The first frame schoolhouse in Pike Township was built in 1850, by Jacob Tappan. It was situated a quarter of a mile east of Winameg, and many of the grey-haired men of today remember it as the place where they first imbibed the 'rule of three' and 'hickory oil,' within its ink-stained and whittle-marked precincts. It was destroyed by fire sometime in the 70's.

"The schoolhouses of today are neat and commodious, fitted with every convenience for the instruction of the descendants of those hardy pioneers. But there is still room for advancement. There are six schoolhouses in the township, but it is to be hoped that the enactment of new laws, and the development of the county will bring within the next five years to the the youth of the country schools, the advantages of the graded school.

"Transportation. The oldest established roads in the county were the Toledo and Angola, the Maumee and Angola, each running westward. They were the most direct emigrant roads leading to the undeveloped country farther west. The automobilist who glides through our beautiful country in his electric machine, over roads smooth as a floor, little thinks that not many years ago these delightful highways were miles upon miles of impassable roads, over which the pioneer wended his weary way with white-covered wagons which sank with every turn of the wheel to the hubs. Then, years afterwards, came the improvement known as the 'Corduroy' road, formed of logs laid side by side, which soon left their alignment, and sank into the mud, in places making the road as uneven as before, although somewhat more passable. Afterwards came the improved 'plank road,' which for a number of years was considered sufficient. As the country improved, and the demand for better roads became necessary, it was thought best to call a meeting in the court house, at Wauseon (about 1877 or 1882), for the discussion of the subject. The call was answered by a large and enthusiastic gathering of the best and most influential farmers in the county. The discussion was very long, heated, and many-sided. At last, one of the active farmers, and one who always held the best interests of the county at heart, arose quietly, and said: 'Gentlemen, you may not live to see it; I may not live to see it; but your children and your children's children will live to see in Fulton county, every roadway and every byway gravelled, from north to south, and east to west.' Like many others, he was only a few years in advance of his time. We of today know the results of the prophesy. Pike Township is not behind the rest; within her borders are fine gravel pits, and as a result her roads are smooth and solid, suitable for the finest phaeton, or rushing automobile.

"Early Taverns of Pike. There are no taverns in Pike, nor never as yet a saloon; but the necessity in those early days for a stopping place for the weary emigrant, in his long and tiresome journey westward, was supplied by the genial and warmhearted Robert A. Howard, and his ever-willing wife, some time in the 'thirties. At times, it was necessary for the traveller to spend several days resting and repairing. The 'latch string' was ever out, and a bountiful table and needed

rest were ever to be found beneath that hospitable roof. Later, George Wier kept 'open house', followed by Michael Handy in 1840, who fed the hungry and thirsty until about 1851. After the trading post at Winameg was abandoned as a store, William Mullen opened it as a hotel; then necessity ceased, and it was abandoned in 1853 or '54.

"Early Postoffices. As the township became settled, the demand for a postoffice and mail route became more necessary. The first office was established at Lyman Parcher's, known as 'Parcher's Corners' (about 1837), but was later removed to the Shute farm, where it remained some years. The mail route was from Toledo to Angola, by horseback over almost impassable roads, and through an unbroken wilderness, of miles upon miles, without a cabin, through storm and flood, freezing cold and blinding snow.

"Another office was established at Robert Howard's called Essex. It was abandoned in 1851, when the county seat was established at Ottokee. This office was on the line from Maumee to Angola, and accommodated Ottokee, Spring Hill, West Unity and other settlements. When not prevented by storm or flood, the mail was delivered weekly.

"In 1848 an office was established at Daniel Knowles' house and named by Dresden W. H. Howard 'Winameg', in memory of an Indian chief of the Ottawa tribe, whose village was near the place. In 1861 it was removed about three-fourths of a mile north, where it remained until abolished, in 1902, in favor of the system of rural delivery. In all these years, which included the exciting period of the war and events following, the office only had two postmasters, namely Edward Sindel, appointed by Abraham Lincoln, in 1861, serving till only lacking one month of thirty years, the longest period of any postmaster in the United States. He was succeeded by Frank Knosco, who served until the office was abolished in 1902.

"The mail, from being weekly, was changed to a tri-weekly, and in 1861 a new route was established, from Adrian to Wauseon. But the old stage coach, which brought the mail daily, is gone, and in its place is the new and shiny mail wagon of Uncle Sam's, which daily deposits the mail at our door. Thus are the foreign news, or the happenings in our nearby towns, brought to the farmers nearly as soon as it is flashed from city to city, over the telegraph wire.

"The First Fourth of July Celebration in Pike. Another circumstance of interest to the lover of historical events in Pike is how the first Fourth of July was celebrated by our grandfathers, and great-grandfathers. The first Fourth of July ever celebrated in Pike Township was held under the massive white oak at the foot of the hill near the homestead of the late Dresden W. H. Howard. Could this old monarch of the forest open its silent lips to our listening ears what bits of history it could relate, of years when, perhaps, the mound builder lived his uneventful life within sound of its waving branches, or, later, the redman, in his wild carefree life, hunting and feasting, and performing his war-dance upon the hilltop; or how they carved upon its trunk the figure of a human being, then fastening their unwilling victim to its body, stood on the hilltop and shot their arrows and bullets around their defenceless heads. Again, of that eventful Independence Day, so many moons ago (probably 1848 or 1849) when

the patriotic spirits of the new settlement gathered together under its spreading branches, and ate the first Fourth of July dinner. There could not have been more than forty or fifty people, all told, but their hearts were filled with the spirit of the day. There were no grand speeches, or cannonading; but it is recorded that Lucius Taylor read the Declaration of Independence, and one large firecracker, brought from some unknown region, was exploded. The best and largest part of the day was the dinner. Should we ask of what it consisted? An abundance of deer, bear, or wild turkey, corn bread and wild fruits prepared by careful hands. Lemonade? Iced tea? Oh, no! Plenty of clear cool sparkling water, from the nearby springs. This accompanied by a cordiality and hospitality growing less as the years pass by. All were neighbors; all were friends, although living twenty miles, perhaps, apart. We cannot help but feel that the, then, large tree waved its branches and rustled its leaves in happiness, upon so peaceful a gathering, that strife and contention were in its past, and that the 'paleface' was enjoying a happy laughter beneath its boughs. It has locked the events of the day within its giant breast, and as we of a later generation listen to its rustling branches, we can but conjecture the story they would tell.

"An Indian Reminiscence. Another interesting incident, recently related by a pioneer resident, was the burial of the last Indian of this section. After the removal of the Indians westward, a few stragglers, who had hidden away at the time in the vain hope of being allowed to die in peace in their beloved haunts, gathered together in a small camp in the woods, near Winameg. Among the number was Wyoxie, Pottawatomie chief, the last successor of Chief Winameg,

"He died in 1840, and a rough hewn box (sawmills were unknown) was made by John Sindel and Moses Tappan, in which the chief with his blanket, gun, ammunition, and hunting acquirements, with a little gourd, to aid him in his journey to the 'happy hunting grounds.' By the request of the Indians, no nails were used in the cover lest, according to their belief, when he came forth from the grave to continue his journey, he would have great difficulty in getting out, if the cover were nailed fast. He was carried in an ox cart, driven by oxen, to the grave, and buried in what is now Aetna cemetery. For many years his grave was visible to residents of the locality.

"The Telephone. It does not seem inappropriate to mention the coming of the telephone, as one of the great elements of change and civilization. It is one of the inventions that write pages of history very rapidly, and one whose influence is felt by a community; and its introduction into Pike Township came with its advancement into other localities, bringing with it attendant changes.

"The first lines were placed in position by the Northwestern Telephone Company, of Wauseon, Ohio, in the summer of 1897. The line was run north from Wauseon to Ottokee, thence east to Winameg, following the principal highways. This was called a "toll" line. These lines were carried all over the county and state. The following year, the 'party' line, as it is called, was established. Today, all the principal homes in Pike Township are connected with Wauseon, Delta, and other towns by telephone.

"Thus the years brought to the early settlers the twenty-five cent

postage, letters once or twice a year. The writers of those letters have been long years in dust, but their children, and children's children, can step across the room to a neat little 'phone, and in a twinkling of an eye can talk to his neighbor a mile away, or converse with a friend in New York, or Chicago, as easily as if in the same room.

"Early Marriages, Births and Deaths. The first marriage occurring in the township was that of a nephew of Lyman Parcher to a daughter of Aretus Knight, Daniel Knowles, justice of the peace, officiating.

"Joseph Salsbury and Magdalena Schlappi were married in 1836, Winfield Tappan and Amanda Woodford were married in Royalton Township in 1835.

"The first male child born in Pike Township was Will D., son of John Sindel, October, 1834. The first female was to John Hobert, September, 1835.

"The first death occurring in the township was that of a child of Joseph Salsbury's, November 16, 1837, and buried in the Salsbury cemetery. The first burial in the Aetna cemetery was Catherine, a sister of Martin and Emery Wilson, 1837.

"The Pioneer Physician. Dr. William Holland was the first physician in Pike Township, a Christian gentleman of refinement and education. He studied medicine at Oakham, Mass., and at the age of twenty-six years began the practice of medicine. He came to Pike Township in 1837 or 1838, and for years rode from one part of the country, to another, a ministering angel to suffering humanity. He died in 1857, at the advanced age of ninety-one years.

"The 'Prairie Schooner' Befits its Name. Sewell Gunn was the first white man to traverse the mysterious bottomless windings of the Black Swamp. He came with his family, in a heavy-moving wagon, travelling for days with scarcely a sight of dry land.

"Thus they came:

'Men and boys and white-covered wagon train
Women moving in sunshine and rain,
'Men and boys and white-covered wagon train
Women, fair as Maumee's rippling wave;
Through primeval forests these pioneers came,
Seeking for freedom, homes, and not for fame;
The pioneer train rests beneath hillsides green.'

"And we, the descendants are enjoying in luxury and comfort the fruits of their toil and self-sacrifice."

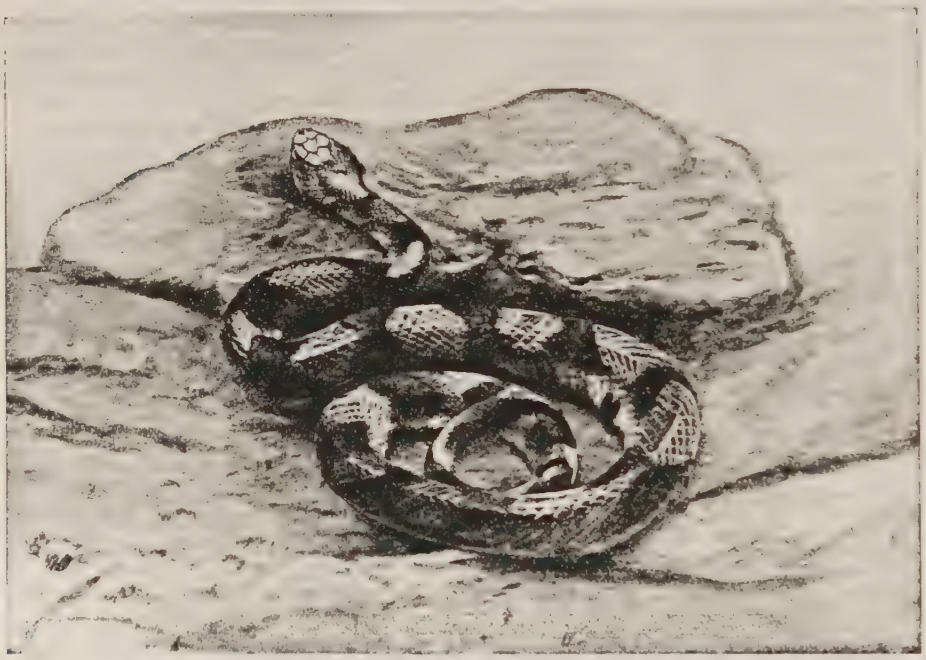
Shortly after the publication in the Wauseon newspaper of the above-quoted article by Mrs. McLaren, it prompted Judge Wm. H. Handy, a worthy former resident of Pike Township, to set down for publication his recollections of early days in Pike Township. He wrote:

"The names in McClarren's article carry me back, and I can see very many of these persons as plainly as if they were before me now. D. W. H. Howard, Whit Tappan, Dan Knowles, David Salsbury, Dave Fairchild, Jennie Viers, Robt. A. Howard, Chet Herrick, Val Winslow, Wm. Mullen, the Sindels, Fewless, Alwoods, McQuillens, Peltons, Dunbars, Dennis's. What a flood of recollections they bring to

one! Hearty pioneers, good citizens all of them, men—the memory of them is a delight. They were the making of old Pike, and they builded well.....

"The old schoolhouse, just two miles east of Ottokee. How many remember it now? It was on the corner of the road running north, from the east line of what is known as the Harvey Aldrich place. It was of logs, and the benches were made of logs split in two, and stakes for legs, in auger holes bored in the logs. It was a long way for us little fellows to walk—a full mile from any home—but I rather think we enjoyed it, after all.

"This was in the days before even the tallow candle was known to us, for I well remember the light at home was made by lard in a saucer, with a wick immersed in the lard, one end exposed just enough to burn.



"AND SNAKES? GRACIOUS! WHAT A COUNTRY FOR SNAKES."

"Deer were plentiful then, as was all game.....And snakes? Gracious! What a country for snakes, rattle-snakes, racers, and copperheads. They were so plentiful that we cared very little for them; and I remember of but one man ever having been bitten by a rattlesnake in Pike. He was our next door neighbor, Aaron Ayers, who, while standing on a log chopping in front of his house, was bitten; but it did not seem to do him much harm.....

"And the roads. They ran in every direction then, very few of them on section lines; but now those old highways are forgotten."

William H. Handy, of Ottawa, Ohio, had a noteworthy record, as a member of the legal fraternity of Fulton county. He "was a

good counselor, and a good trial lawyer, and he eventually was advanced to the judiciary of the court of common pleas; and, as a judge, he "presided with becoming dignity." His brother, Charles F., who died in Ottokee, January 15, 1917, was resident in Fulton county for more than seventy years, and was a justice of the peace for nearly a generation. Both William H. and Charles F. had meritorious service records during the Civil War, being veterans. Their father, the Hon. Michael Handy was a conspicuous figure in early Pike, and in Ottokee, when that was the county seat. Michael Handy was undoubtedly a man of strong character. He was well educated, and capable as an educator; was a teacher for twenty-one winters; yet, did not hesitate to work industriously as a cobbler, or shoemaker and mender, recorded Verity, during the decade 1840-50. He had an increasing family, and the small stipend he received for teaching covered the needs of only three months. He was also justice of the peace, but his services as such were rare in that law-abiding community. He eked out something toward the family need by hotel-keeping, on his farm, but the revenue from that cannot have been very much, for he charged a man only six cents for a bed, and only 12 cents (one shilling) for a meal, while whisky retailed at three cents a portion. Yet, Michael Handy reared his family well, and while engaged in the diversified occupations of teacher, hotel-keeper, farmer, justice of the peace, he found time to study law, and eventually became a member of the legal bar of Fulton county. He typified the capable pioneer, a man of initiative and capability, one who was able to go into the profitless places, and "carry on" until he had turned it into a place of plentiful yield. As he himself stated, in a letter, headed "Pioneer Reminiscences," to the editor of the Wauseon "Republican" in 1884, most of the pioneers of Pike Township "came here young, strong, and ambitious, able and willing to face the hardships of a new country, to make homes for ourselves and children." Continuing, he explained that they "must go about 20 miles or more to mill, and as the conditions of the roads and prairies were thin, it would take two or three days to go, and must stop in the wagon or mill all night, and carry our provisions." Nowadays, a farmer would begrudge the spending of a day, in taking a load of hay to market.

Michael Handy was the first clerk of Pike Township. He narrates an interesting incident of his first year, as such, stating:

"In 1841 Pike Township was made, and township officers had to be elected; and as I was willing to serve the dear people I was taken up and elected township clerk for the new township. As such clerk it became my duty to take the enumeration of all the scholars of the township, of school age. Hence, I went at it as a township officer should. When completed, I must return the same to the county seat, which was Toledo, about thirty miles distant with good roads. The only way I could make the trip was on foot. Now, the question of vast importance to me was: where can I stay overnight? No money, and township clerk at that. But good luck seemed to be on my side, for I remembered that the young lady who was then teaching our school resided on the prairie a little this side of Toledo. Hence, I called on her, informing her I was going into the neighborhood of her folks. She was quite anxious that I should call on them that night, and I, being township clerk and school examiner for this part of the county

of Lucas, seemed to her all right. So I went to Toledo, made my report; came back, and stayed overnight; next day returning home all right. It had not cost me a cent, for the reason that I had not one; but I made up my mind that on the first Monday in March, when I settled with the trustees, I should be allowed for my time and all expenses out; and I looked forward to that time with great interest. The first Monday in March came around, and I, with my township record under my arm, went to the place of holding elections, to meet the trustees, and settle with all township officers. After we had completed all, we concluded we had a new township now out of debt, and that we would keep it so; we passed a resolution that no township officer should charge, or receive, anything for the year's work. I said: Amen! but I thought how vain are all things here below; how false, and yet how fair."

Michael Handy was also reminiscent regarding his first term as a school teacher, in Pike Township:

"In the fall of 1841, I was employed to teach school in the district in which Mr. Cheadle resided. The schoolhouse was near his house. I finished my school; they paid me the public money, which amount was small; the balance they collected promptly on a Rate Bill made, and paid me; and old Father Wright made me a present of a nice set of chairs of his own make."

While upon Pike Township school history, reference must be made to the notable service of William P. Cowan. He began to teach school in Pike Township in 1854. He died in 1913, but his school record embraced fifty-four winter terms, a record only exceeded by James F. Burroughs, of Royalton, who taught for fifty-nine terms. "Bill" Cowan, however, probably did more to improve the standard of education in Fulton county than did any other man. For many years he conducted, in Pike Township, a private training school for teachers, and for those studying to enter that profession. One hundred and eighty-seven teachers passed through his normal school, and some of them became conspicuously capable as teachers. A further review of Mr. Cowan's school activities is embodied in the schools chapter of this work. He also took some part in public administration, being a director of the County Infirmary for some years.

It seems well-nigh incredible that, of the men who were in Pike Township during the first years of its existence, there should still be one living representative. Lucius P. Taylor settled in Pike Township seventy-seven years ago, and he was then twenty-five years old. He is now one hundred and three years old, and although of course not now vigorous, he is at times remarkably alert in remembrance of pioneer days and incidents. As befits the record of the man who has lived longest in the township, and also in the county, his life story is fully reviewed in the biographical section of this current historical work; but some matter not embodied in that sketch may be written here. Lucius P. Taylor came in 1843, and settled on 240 acres of wild timber land. He erected his log cabin, and made provision for the coming of his parents and brothers and sisters, who settled just east of him. He and his family for some years were twenty miles away from the nearest doctor, and thus depended almost wholly upon home-brewed herb medicines, except in cases of grave sickness. The mill

where they took their grain and corn for grinding was at Maumee, twenty miles away; and generally, the roads were in such a state of muddiness, being practically a morass, that the journeys to the mill had, in most years, to be deferred until the winter season, when the ground was frozen. Lucius P. Taylor raised a large family, and gave two sons to the nation during the Civil war.

J. H. Tappan, of the pioneer Pike family of that name, wrote in the "Toledo Times," of October 9, 1905, regarding "Winameg and the Council Tree," and of a visit he paid to the Howard family. He wrote:

"Fulton County, like the Maumee Valley, is full of historical interest. Perhaps one of the most interesting is the farm and house of the late D. W. H. Howard, who was the first white man to come into that part of Fulton county. His name, for over half a century, has been a household word in the homes of the great Maumee Valley. No one of the pioneers of northwestern Ohio had a larger personal experience with the different Indian tribes than he. Being appointed Indian interpreter by President Jackson, he often held councils with the Indians under the famous Council tree that stands near his house in Winameg.

"The writer.....had the pleasure of visiting the Howard house a few days ago. It stands on high.....ground, surrounded by many shade trees, planted by Mr. Howard's own hand many years ago. On entering the room, the visitor faces the old-time brick fireplace, and the andirons so common in those early days for holding the wood fires. In this room, the visitor will notice a picture of Peter Navarre, General Harrison's Indian scout, mounted on horseback, dressed in Indian garb. Navarre was a personal friend of Mr. Howard....

".....We were invited to descend the hill, and see the Council tree. This hill is of an angle of forty-five degrees, and.....arriving at the base we stood in front of the tomb of the late D. W. H. Howard, erected in solid stone and concrete masonry, as per order by himself, prior to his death.

"Near the same place is the large oak Council tree, a monarch of the forest, and one hundred feet high. It was under this tree that Mr. Howard held a council with the Indians in 1832, the time of the Black Hawk war, and he did more in that council to prevent the Indian war than any other man in northwestern Ohio. Under this tree the noted Indian chief, Winameg, is buried.

"Mr. Howard's daughter informed me one of the Indians would lean against this tree while the others would shoot, to determine who could come the nearest to his head without hitting him. She pointed to bullet holes that were yet visible....."

That giant oak becomes historic, if only for the fact that at some time during each day its shadow would probably rest upon the burial place, or the sacrificial altars, of the ancient people, called the Mound Builders, of Fulton county; and it surely each day casts its shade over the last resting place of two worthy men, of like thought; both true lovers of nature; both of like nobility of character; and both men of commanding influence in their respective circles. These two men, Winameg and Howard, noble chiefs, both of them, one of red skin, the other with white (while still seeking to secure fair treatment for the red), lie almost side by side. A visit to the spot prompted Frank

S. Ham, who had a profound respect for the late Col. D. W. H. Howard, to write the following verses, which are entitled: "At the Tomb of Winameg's Friend":

"O brave and noble old pioneer—
Civilization's herald, who knew no fear—
Whose bones are resting here!
I come but to drop a tear.

Friend of a bygone race,
Whom the white man did efface!
Thy life did'st span the space,
'Twixt then and now, both interlace.

* * * *

And when you sickened and died
'Twas by an old warrior's side
You chose in death to reside—
With old Chief Winameg to abide.

Thy dust and his mingle—bone to bone—
And, when the legions gather at the throne,
The old chief will not stand alone
Thy voice his defense will make known."

The Council Oak is historic also as the scene of an important council between white men and red; between the representative of the Federal Government, through young Dresden W. H. Howard, as interpreter, and Chief Winameg. That, according to Colonel Howard's own version, took place "in the spring of 1827, or 1828." That being so, it is probably erroneous to connect the council with the Black Hawk war, for it was at another camp, that of Kin-jo-i-no, on the south bank of the Maumee, at the Rapids, and in the year 1832, that young Howard, then only fifteen years old, was so useful to the United States Government, in circumventing the machinations of the Sac chief, Black Hawk, who sought to disaffect, and stir to warlike action, the Ottawa and other tribes of northwestern Ohio. The council at Winameg presumably had as its purpose the honest purchase from the Indians of their priority rights to Fulton county territory; and Indian Agent Jackson, a near relative of President Jackson, in a letter written in 1832 to Edward Howard, father of D. W. H., referred to the boy, Dresden, who "speaks the dialects of the Indians, as I was pleased to learn on a former occasion," which presumably was that occasion in 1827 or 1828 when the boy interpreted the treaty between Chief Winameg and the Government. Colonel Howard, in the last year of his life waited calmly for the end, and deliberately planned the order his obsequies should follow. Regarding the place of burial, he wrote:

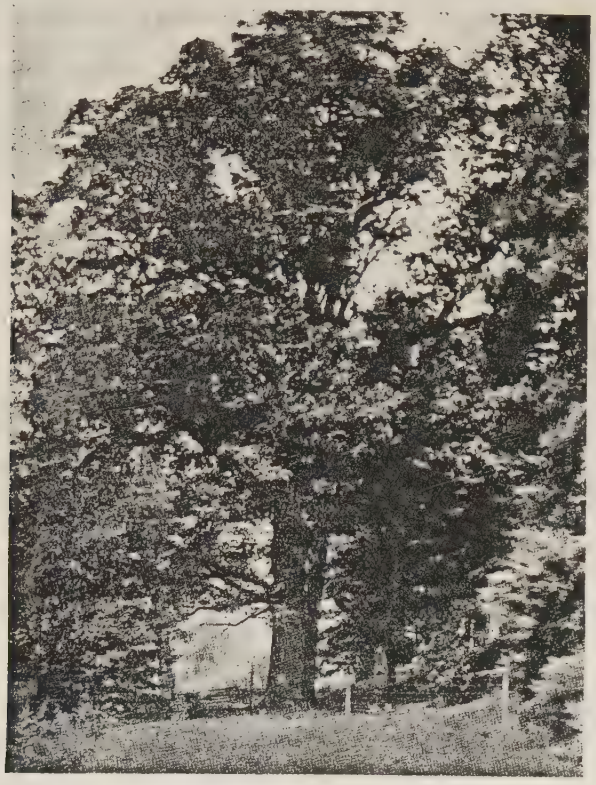
"I was an interpreter for the Government at a council held under the Council Oak, by the aged Sachem (Chief) Winameg, who lies buried in the hill.

"At the foot of the Great Council Oak the Indian council fire burned out, and he sleeps his last sleep in the hill by the spring.

"And may we, too, when the drum beats the last roll call, be permitted to pitch Eternity's Bivouac on the hillside, in the shade of the beautiful trees planted by our own hands, and so bountifully watered by his loving kindness. So may it be."

His wife, Mary B. Copeland Howard, who survived him for many years, stated, soon after his death:

"When I first saw this spot, the old Council Oak was pointed out to me. Upon its trunk were places cut where a prisoner had been tied by the Indians. Thousands of bullets were to be seen embedded about



THE HISTORIC COUNCIL OAK AT WINAMEG.

the spot where the unfortunate victim had come to his death. They had stood on the hill above, and, evidently from what we could learn, shot not to kill, but to see how near they could strike his body without inflicting death. The marks were plainly discernible for many years."

"The oak tree will always be historic, perhaps, indeed, chiefly historic to Fulton county, because it was under its shade that the Fourth of July celebration was held by the pioneers of the township in 1848, or 1849, as has been described in the narrative by Mrs. McClarren.

"Winameg, and that vicinity, also will be full of historic interest to the people of the county, because of its Indian history. Its Indian name was Neshe-naw-ba, although it had another French-Indian name, and "at a still earlier day" was called De-Mutre, meaning "the beaver,"

that name having been applied to it because "the many ponds in the immediate vicinity were numerously inhabited by this sagacious little animal."

J. H. Tappan, in the article before-quoted, refers to a visit to the Indian camp, Yoxey (Wyoxie), stating that:

"Leaving the Council tree, we proceeded to the large woods, and followed the old Indian trail that still exists. At the east end of the woods, and north of the trail, the Indian camp Yoxey (Wyoxie) was located. In the winter of 1841, here Chief Yoxey (Wyoxie) died. The writer, and three others, including my father, made a rude box in which to lay the dead chief; also his gun and tomahawk, and some powder. When the lid was being nailed fast, that part of the program was stopped by the Indians. They claimed the chief would get out at a better hunting ground some day."

This evidently was not the Indian death and burial of which Mrs. Mary B. Howard wrote, and to which reference has been made in an

THE MANY PONDS IN THE IMMEDIATE VICINITY (OF WINAMEG, ONCE CALLED DE MUTRE, SIGNIFYING "THE BEAVER") WERE NUMEROUSLY INHABITED BY THIS SAGACIOUS LITTLE ANIMAL.

earlier chapter of this work; but it is clear that in 1841 there were many Indians still in the neighborhood.

Mrs. McClarren's article has covered most of the essential history of Pike Township. Verity records that the Poplar Grove church was built about 1848, by United Brethren members, and the Bueler Church, in 1881, by the same church sect; that the St. Paul's Church, of the Evangelical faith, was built in 1881, in which year also a church of the Disciples was "rigged up for worship," in the Trowbridge school district; and that a church of the Seventh Day Adventists was built in 1881, in the Whitcomb school district, under the labors of A. Bigelow. The two present churches are moderately strong in membership, there being about one hundred members of the Disciples Church, and about seventy-five of the United Brethren.

The present schools of Pike Township are about equal to those of similar townships. There are no high schools, but the excellent school of Delta is within easy access to those elder scholars of Pike Township people who seek high school education. There are seven one-room schoolhouses, of rural class, in the township. These are valued at

$8,700, and are adequate for the elementary education of the children of the township. The enrollment in 1919 totaled to 170.

The following are the present members of the Pike Township Board of Education: Frank Waldeck, president; W. B. Denius, clerk; O. S. Geer, W. L. Campbell, D. B. Cook, Harry Double, directors.

Population

All the statistics for Pike Township are not available, but such particulars of population as have been verified are given. They are: 1870, 878; 1880, 1147; 1890, 1142; 1900, 1147; 1910, 1099; 1920, 1001.

It is obvious, therefore, that, as a purely agricultural community, Pike Township was fully settled in the '70s; and as a railroad does not touch any part of the township it has had little opportunity of developing in other industrial lines. It is, in places, however, beautiful country in which to live.

CHAPTER XVIII

HISTORY OF YORK TOWNSHIP

York is the oldest of all the townships of Fulton county; in fact, the greater part of the land embraced in all the other townships of the county was at one time within the bounds of York. Prior to the establishment of Lucas county, the land was within the jurisdiction of Wood and Henry counties. Lucas county was created in 1835, and the whole of the present area of Fulton county, with the exception of a strip taken from Williams county on the west and from Henry county on the south when Fulton county was erected in 1850, was organized into one large township, called York. Subdivisions, however, came quickly. York Township was formed on June 6, 1836, but in the same year the organization of Swan Creek Township took a big slice off the eastern side of York. Chesterfield, Royalton, and Amboy were all formed in 1837, and possibly very few of the settlers within that northern strip (for the possession of which there was such a serious contention in 1835 between Ohio and Michigan), took the trouble to vote in the first York Township election, held in 1836. The organization of Clinton Township, in 1838, restricted York on the west. Pike Township was organized in 1841, and Dover in 1843, and York Township boundaries have been the same ever since, save that in 1850, a strip two miles wide was added to York, and other southern townships of Fulton county, that strip being ceded by Henry county.

York Township is generally level; its soil is inclined to be heavy, the greater part of York being in the Black Swamp area, and the soil is very near to clay. Yet, there is a dearth of water in dry summers, the watercourses being apt to dry completely. In the northern part of the township the soil is sandy, and there is much gravel. Bad Creek runs through the township in a southerly direction.

There is some doubt as to who was the pioneer settler of York Township. William Jones is said, and is generally supposed, to have been the first settler, coming in May, 1834; yet, it is recorded that William, John, and James King came into the township also in May, of that year, and, by their testimony, William Jones was not then, to their knowledge, "in the woods."

John S. Trowbridge, the pioneer of Delta, was also in York in 1834, as were Cornelius and Alanson Trowbridge, and the Hampton family. The King record also refers to Elisha Trowbridge and a Swiss family, named Schlappi, as being "in the woods" in 1834, early. Of course, most of the pioneers of York Township, may strictly be considered to be pioneers of York Township, as that township, when organized in 1836, embraced almost all of present Fulton county; but the endeavor of the compiler of this work is to place the records in the history of the township of which the land entered by the respective settlers ultimately became a part.

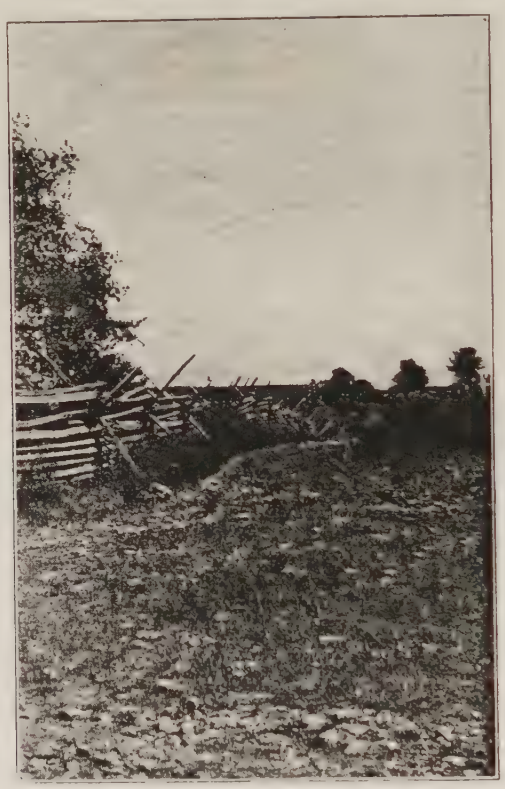
Settlers during the next five or six years included: 1835, Abram Cole, and family; 1835, or 1836, Peter Wise, Gilman Cheedle, William Fowler, David Childs, Bethuel Gould, Jefferson Van Fleet, Martin Butler, Charles Gray, Thomas Wardley; 1836, Robert McClarren, Gardner Tremain, and his wife Elizabeth; 1837, James Trowbridge and family; 1838, Moyer family; Henry Fluhart, H. Whitney, James McQuilling, and G. B. Lewis were also early settlers, but the year of their coming is not known.

During the '40s, the settlers included: John Batdorf, Samuel and Elizabeth Biddle, Alfred B. Gunn, Elijah Smith, S. R. Stebbins, George Wright, William Markle, Calvin Biddle, Mark Berry; Abner P. Brainard, John Harrison, S. B. Skeels, McLasky family, Adam Zedaker, Geoge Wood, and many others.

William King, with his wife, three sons and one daughter, and also his father and mother, were truly emigrants, for they came direct from Londonderry, Ireland. They intended going on to Defiance, but were persuaded by Peter Manor, a hotelkeeper at Providence, with whom they stayed for a night while en route in their wagon, to first go twelve miles north, to what was then known as Six Mile Woods. Accompanied by Manor they went. On the edge of Six Mile Woods they came to the cabin of William Meeker, who had settled in what is now Swan Creek Township, in the previous year, 1833. They hired him to guide them over the land, which the U. S. Government was prepared to sell for $1.50 an acre. They went due west to where Delta now stands; thence to York Center where they turned and went one mile south, thence east to the "oak openings," finally selecting land on section twenty-four. Then they returned to Providence, and King made a journey, on foot, to the land office at Waupakonetta. The road was so slushy that it took him three days, the route being along a "blazed" trail. Upon his return, he took his family onto the land he had entered, and erected his cabin, the family meanwhile living in the wagon. Within a month, they experienced one of the terrifying tornadoes which periodically leave a trail of devastation in Fulton county. That visitation left a track "two miles wide and thirty miles long" through the dense forest. "Its duration was about twenty minutes, and almost destroyed the forest; everything was a wreck in its path," and "everything" could have meant only the standing timber, for there was nothing else in its way, there being no habitations, save the "shanty" of Mr. King, which seems to have been almost miraculously "saved, amid the falling and crashing of timber," but "it required of the settlers eight days of steady work to cut their way out of this windfall."

John S. Trowbridge settled nearly a mile west of the present village of Delta, and eventually became a merchant in Delta. The Trowbridge family has good place in the records of York Township and Delta, and were good members of the Presbyterian Church of Delta. They were formerly from Saratoga, New York. He and his wife, Hannah Compton, became the parents of nine children, all of whom were born in Ohio. His wife's father, came into Fulton county at the same time, and purchased from William King an entry of eighty acres the latter had made in that year. James Trowbridge, who came with his wife and two children from Saratoga, landed at Perrysburgh

on July 17, 1837, having made the trip from Albany, New York State to Toledo, and perhaps on to Perrysburgh, wholly by water, taking the canal route from Albany to Buffalo, then on Lake Erie to Toledo. At the time of their arrival at Maumee, the Trowbridge family found a great gathering of Indians had centered there, preparatory to being removed further west. On July 20, 1837, the Trowbridge family had reached the section in York Township upon which they were destined to live for very many years. James Trowbridge is stated to have been the first settler to conduct a store within what became the limits of the village of Delta. It appears, however, that Eli Kitts, of Maumee City, was the first storekeeper, James Trowbridge being second.



A TOWNSHIP OFFICE IN PIONEER DAYS WAS THAT OF FENCE VIEWER.

The Fowlers were from Pennsylvania, and later from Fairfield County, Ohio. It is believed that they came into the county of Lucas in August, 1835, settling in York. There were three sons, William, Thomas, and Robert, in the family at that time, and they all lived to establish worthy branches and to take good part in the development of Fulton county. William E. Fowler, son of Thomas, became a leading resident of Delta. He was twice mayor of Delta, being re-elected in 1902.

Gilman Cheadle and his wife, Susanna Rockafellow, came from Morgan County, Ohio, in 1836. The family lived in York Township

until 1870, when Mr. Cheadle retired to Wauseon. Ten children were born to them, and as a family they were much respected. Gilman Cheadle was postmaster for fourteen years, having been appointed by President Jackson.

Martin H. Butler was in the township certainly in 1836, and probably in 1835. He was the first township clerk of York and was one of the first school examiners. Also he was one of the pioneer teachers.

Charles Gray headed a family of good record. He was of English birth, emigrating as a young man. He married Marilla Donaldson, who died in 1850. Charles Gray was married four times, and lived to a good old age. He cleared 120 acres in York Township. James Gray, his son, by his first wife, enlisted as a drummer-boy in the Union Army, when only fifteen years old, and saw some of the hardest war service with the Thirty-eighth Regiment, O. V. I. He died in 1909. George was a successful builder and contractor in Lyons, and also had a good Civil war record. Edward Gray, who died in 1913, as the result of a fall from a scaffold at his home, near Wauseon, was at that time one of the oldest of the early residents of York Township. He was eighty-two years old, and he only lived for three days after the fall. He also was a soldier during the years of stress, 1861-65.

Thomas Murray and his wife, Mary Huffteller, settled on section twenty-six in 1836. They were from Pennsylvania.

The McClarren family, originally from Scotland, has been associated with Fulton county since 1836. Robert McClarren, the progenitor, in Fulton county, of the family married Catherine Jones, sister of William Jones, the first settler in York.

William McClarren, a worthy soldier of more than three years of Civil war service, was "well-known to a large circle of friends in Fulton county." He probably was the first born of the children of William and Catherine (Jones) McClarren. He was born in York Township on December 13, 1837, and died September 16, 1912, in Sandusky. To him, by his wife, Rebecca Alwood, were born seven children, including William B. McClarren, of Winameg, and Judson McClarren, of Wauseon.

Peter and Elizabeth (Monasmith) Zimmerman came from Wayne County, Ohio, in 1845, and located at Delta, where they died. They had nine children, including Martin, who was a drummer boy during the Civil war. Mart Zimmerman will be remembered by many for his activity in organizing, or being one of the principal organizers of the Grand Army Drum Corps, and the Fulton County Martial Band, which eventually took the place of the G. A. R. Drum Corps. For more than a generation he was prominent in such connection, the last occasion being that of the appearance of the band at the Grand Review of the G. A. R., at the Toledo Encampment, in 1908. He died in 1910. For thirty years he was a member of the U. B. Church. Simon Zimmerman, his brother, was throughout his life a prominent resident of Delta. For fifty-seven years he was a carriage and wagon builder in Delta, and was eighty-seven years old in the year of his death, 1911. He was one of the thirty-eight men who voted at the pioneer election of the village of Delta; and he held several official connections with the local administration in later years. For eleven years he was township trustee, and was thrice elected mayor of Delta.

Garner Tremain settled on sections 25 and 36. He and his wife, Elizabeth, were formerly of New York State.

John and Elizabeth Batdorf settled on section 21 in 1842, where they raised a large family, including Aley M., "one of the pioneer teachers of the county," and for many years a deputy surveyor of Fulton county, and Aaron B., who became an active and useful citizen of Wauseon. He died in December, 1918, and his brother, Aley M., not long afterwards. The latter was a teacher in Fulton county schools for thirty-seven winters.

Henry Fluhart located on section seven, and was one of the most hospitable of the invariably hospitable and openhearted pioneers. His son, James, is referred to in the Press chapter, he being among the pioneer newspaper editors of the county.

The Rev. Uriah Spencer was one of the settlers in 1835, located on section 17. He was at one time auditor of Lucas county, and was one of the pioneer Methodist preachers of the neighborhood, although he came into the region to settle, and not to take clerical charge, his health having broken down. There are many references to his work elsewhere in this volume. Uriah Spencer married into the Mikesell family, and his son William married Emma Donaldson, who bore her husband eleven children, among them Frank, who still has the homestead in York Township, and is a successful farmer.

James Donaldson, who came into York Township in 1835, or 1836, was a veteran of the War of 1812; and although there is no record of it, it is believed that he was buried in Fulton county.

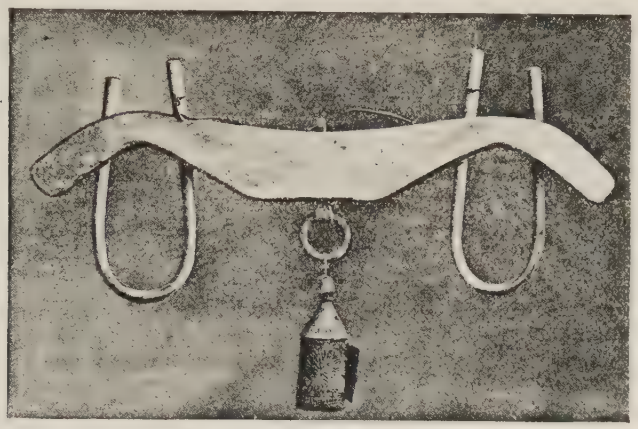
Stephen R. Stebbins settled in York Township in 1844, entering land in section seven. His wife, whom he married in Cuyahoga County, Ohio, in 1840, was Sarah Abbott. Mr. Stebbins was early a justice of the peace in York Township, and also held other minor offices. He retired to Wauseon in 1883.

The Biddle family has been prominent in Fulton county history, especially in Wauseon. Samuel Biddle and his wife, Elizabeth, settled in York Township in 1842,on section seventeen. They allowed their cabin to be used as a school building, in the early '40s, some of the pupils being their own children. One of them, Stillman C., was for twenty-one years a justice of the peace in York Township, and for a period was township clerk. He later took up residence in Wauseon, and was long a member of the Baptist Church of that place. He died in 1916, aged eighty-two years. Many other men of worthy record in Fulton county are of the same patryonymic, but are not of the family of Samuel. George D. Biddle settled in York Township in 1855, coming from Richland County, Ohio; and he also had a son named Stillman, and one named Samuel A. They were both successful farmers in York. Another of his sons was John L., who developed a fine farm in York Township, and later retired to Delta. Another Biddle family was that headed by Jacob Biddle, who settled in Clinton Township in 1855, buying a farm from Elisha Williams, the pioneer settler of that township.

Mark Berry came from Holmes County, Ohio, in 1842. His son, Mark W. Berry, who died in 1913, aged seventy-seven years, was well-known in Wauseon. For forty years he was a member of the Christian Church.

John Harrison is supposed to have come into York Township in 1840, or in about that year, and settled on section seventeen. For many years after locating in the township, he conducted a blacksmithing business on his farm. He married Elizabeth Wardley. Their son, Alfred D. Harrison, for the greater part of his life was a successful farmer in York.

Benjamin Skeels was a stalwart pioneer. He and his wife and family came in 1840, and suffered many hardships during the first few years; in fact, Mrs. Skeels died three years after coming to Lucas county. An incident connected with her burial will give an indication of some of the handicaps under which the pioneers labored. It appears that the day of the funeral was a wet one, and owing to the state of the roads only the male members of the family accompanied the body to the graveside. The coffin, a roughly hewn one, was placed into an ox-



OX-YOKE AND TIN LANTERN.

wagon, and as the wagon with attendants passed what is now known as the Segrist farm, the state of the road at that point was so bad that the water almost ran into the wagon box. Upon another occasion, Benjamin Skeels worked for George Wright for twenty-two days, in order to earn sufficient to purchase a barrel of flour (worth at that time about fifty cents a bushel, at the mill). And in order to get the flour he had to go to Maumee, the journey both ways taking five days. Thus he labored for practically four weeks for a barrel of flour. Later, Benjamin Skeels carried the United States mail, from Waterville to Fort Wayne, passing over the old plank road, which went through Delta. His daughter' Sarah Skeels, recollected that her father once stated that at Emerling's Corners, east of Delta, there was a toll gate during the days of the plank road. The mail route passed through West Barre and Ridgeville.

R. C. Skeels, now of Wauseon and in his eighty-fourth year, narrated some of his pioneer experiences in 1918. He is now practically confined to his couch, by paralysis, but his recollection of early days in York Township is vivid. He was, in 1918, somewhat amused at the complaints made at that time by people who felt the "hard times" brought to the country by prosecution of the World War. He said:

"With all the restrictions that the government is placing upon us that we might win the war, we scarcely know what poverty, or hard times, means. I was born in Seneca county, this state, and when three and a half years old came to this county, April 20, 1840. My parents located on the farm now owned by A. T. Skeels, in York Township. There was not a foot of it cleared, and for miles and miles it was a dense forest.

"Within one week after our arrival, we were in our own home, a log shanty built without the use of a nail. This new home had a door and two windows.

"We had to go to Waterville for mail and flour, and it took us from two to four days to make the trip. The roads in York Township were trails, which wound over the ridges. Two of these old trails, from Providence and Waterville, met near where the Raker Church now stands in Swan Creek Township. Over these trails we used to drive with our oxen and lumber wagons, and we were just as happy as the boys and girls of today, as they go gliding along over the fine roads in their autos. I am glad they have things better than we had it, though I doubt if they have any more real pleasures than we. The gasless Sunday, and the two pounds of sugar, did not bother us in those days. Gasoline was unknown, and to have had two pounds of sugar would have been a luxury.

"There were only twelve voters in the township when we first located in York. There were no schoolhouses, but a little later Mrs. Pray taught in a log house.....

"When we came here the Indians had gone, but a number of their log, or pole, houses with pole roofs, still stood. There were plenty of wolves here in those days, but they did not molest the people, but bothered the sheep and poultry.

"I was married to Elizabeth Frederick, January 13, 1859, and we started housekeeping in a log house, on what is now Jonah Seymour's farm. We hauled all our household goods in a wagon, in one load.....

"Of that (Skeels) pioneer family, one brother was killed at Atlanta in the Civil war; another brother, A. T., lives on the old home farm; and two half-sisters, Sarah and Callie Skeels, reside in Wauseon.

"The pioneers who lived in the county (York Township) when we first came here, and whom I remember, were: John Wise, who lived on the Jas. Schamp farm; Garner and Warren Tremain, who lived where Jud Smith now lives; William Cheadle owned the Jacob Segrist farm; John Miller lived across the road from us, in what was then Henry county; Nate Wright, father of N. C. Wright, of this city, owned the George Myers farm."

The Segrist family is one of long residence in York Township, although it can hardly be termed one of the pioneer families, excepting insofar as it has participated in pioneer clearing of wild land. Jacob Segrist bought the William Cheadle farm. The first of the Segrist family to come into York Township was John B., who came in 1853 from Stark County, Ohio. He developed a valuable farm of 240 acres, and built a fine farm home. The Segrist family record is extensively referred to in the second volume of this work, and further reference is unnecessary here, unless one gives a personal reminiscence of Jacob Segrist, who remembered "pounding stakes for the Lake Shore

Railroad" in 1853; and at that time, at Wauseon, "there were two swamps where the railroad park is now situated," he stated; also saying that "a north and south Indian trail traversed what is now Ottokee Street, Wauseon, from the north, and passed near the alleyway of the present Ham Block, on Depot Street; and from there it went south, near the Omler Building, and on to the southeast near Barber's old residence, on East Leggett Street." Jacob Segrist, in 1915, was eighty-seven years old, and "looked spry and walked more like a man of fifty," commented a local newspaper. Mr. Segrist asserted that he had only been sick "one or two times in his life," and had "only had the doctor once."

Of the early residents in York Township, probably one of the most widely-known in that part was Dr. William Ramsay, who for more than fifty years practiced in the county. He died in October, 1909, aged eighty-two years, fifty-seven of which had been spent in Fulton county. After he had graduated from the Reserve Medical College, at Cleveland, he returned to his home in Bolivar, Ohio, to resume school teaching and to practice medicine, but "the Great West beckoned to him, and he obeyed," states an obituary, which continues: "Taking his horse and pill bags, he started across the country to find a location, and after several days travelling arrived at Napoleon, where he expected to locate. The evening of his arrival he met a contractor, who said: "Young man! This is no place for you. Go to Delta. It's a prosperous settlement, and with the building of a railroad it will be a good location." The next morning "found Dr. Ramsay seated in his two-wheeled gig, with his horse headed for Delta. While crossing the creek, just north of Napoleon, he lost his saddlebags and medicine. He arrived in Delta with his horse, gig, and seven dollars in money. In the forests which spread over Fulton county in 1852, Dr. Ramsay found his gig of very little use to him, as most of his trips were made over cow-paths, or Indian trails. Only the physician of the pioneer days can tell of the hardships which were endured by them, as they were enroute to some settlers' cabin to offer relief, or how they became lost in the woods and were compelled to sleep out-of-doors all night. Dr. Ramsay knew what this meant, as he had endured it all." For many years Dr. Ramsay was the principal owner, latterly sole owner, of a banking business in Delta. The Bank of Delta was founded by him, and by David C. Teeple, in 1868, and it was successfully operated until the death of Dr. Ramsay, in 1909.

Valentine Emerling settled in York Township in the '50s, and lived there until 1911, when he died at the age of ninety-one years. He was a man of strong character, and fine personality, and was widely-known as "Grandpa" Emerling.

A reviewing of the lives of worthy York Township residents could take up many more pages of this chapter, but as many of the prominent families will be given extensive review in the second volume, the remainder of this chapter will be chiefly confined to township and town history, thus avoiding unnecessary double recording.

Township Records

Unfortunately, the township records of the first thirty years have been lost, and with the exception of the fact that Martin H. Butler

was the township clerk elected at the first election in 1836, there is nothing on record until the year 1866, when the township officers were: Simon Zimmerman, William Struble, and J. H. Williams, trustees; Matthew Sutton, clerk; A. H. Smith, treasurer; Emanuel Batdorf, assessor; E. W. Cleveland, and Isaac Pontius, constables; Samuel Gertgey, John McQuilling, S. B. Brown, Charles Wright, Calvin Biddle, B. B. Biddle, Daniel Saulpaugh, John Gee, Andrew Biddle, A. H. Smith, S. G. Aumend, Samuel Pontius, R. C. Skeels, William Struble, John Elton, E. Batdorf, J. B. Segrist, and Eli Timbers, supervisors. From that time forward the record of trustees is complete. The succession is as follows:

"1867, same as 1866; 1868, Simon Zimmerman, Silas B. Skeels, and Thomas Wardley; 1868, 1870-71, Samuel O. Ayers, S. B. Skeels, and Thomas Wardley; 1872-73, S. O. Ayers, S. G. Aumend, T. Wardley; 1874, the same; 1875, S. O. Ayers, Reuben Bond, J. B. Fashbaugh; 1876, S. O. Ayers, E. R. Bowerman, J. B. Fashbaugh; 1877, S. O. Ayers, E. R. Bowerman, George D. Biddle; 1878, Simon Zimmerman, George D. Biddle, E. R. Bowerman; 1879, S. Zimmerman, E. R. Bowerman, J. Botsford; 1880, same; 1881, S. Zimmerman, E. R. Bowerman, John S. Wise; 1882, S. Zimmerman, E. R. Bowerman, and J. Batdorf; 1883, S. Zimmerman, E. R. Bowerman, Reuben Bond; 1884, Andrew J. Fraker, E. R. Bowerman, Reuben Ford; 1885, Andrew Fraker, Fayette S. Wolcott, and Reuben Ford; 1886, A. J. Fraker, E. R. Bowerman, Charles Harrison; 1887, the same; 1888, A. J. Fraker, W. P. Miller, Charles Harrison; 1889, A. S. Trowbridge, W. T. Miller, Chas. Harrison; 1890, A. S. Trowbridge, W. T. Miller, A. Waldeck; 1891, A. S. Trowbridge, S. G. Aumend, A. Waldeck; 1892-93, the same; 1894-95, A. S. Trowbridge, Jacob Shinaberger, A. Waldeck; 1896, A. S. Trowbridge, J. Shinaberger, and George Koos; 1897, C. F. Trowbridge, George Koos, Charles C. Wilson; 1898-1900, C. F. Trowbridge, Alfred Rex, Charles C. Wilson; 1901-04, J. G. Stiriz, Alfred Rex, C. C. Wilson; 1905, Jerry Williams, A. Rex, C. C. Wilson; 1906-07, J. Williams, J. W. Miller, C. C. Wilson; 1908-09, J. Williams, J. W. Miller, T. E. Goodwin; 1910-11, H. B. Geringer, N. J. Snyder, T. E. Goodwin; 1912-13, H. B. Geringer, N. J. Snyder, F. E. Terwilliger; 1914, H. B. Geringer, A. D. Mann, F. E. Terwilliger; 1915, K. H. Trowbridge, A. D. Mann, F. E. Terwilliger; 1916-17, K. H. Trowbridge, A. D. Mann, J. W. Leist; 1918-19, K. H. Trowbridge, C. D. Eberly, J. W. Leist; 1920, M. A. Batdorf, C. D. Eberly, J. Segrist."

The present township clerk is C. F. Bower, who is also clerk of the Board of Education, and of the Delta Council. He succeeded Addison B. Thompson, as township clerk, in 1920, the latter having held the office for very many years.

Addison Thompson for a generation was one of the successful business men of Delta. He was the head of a large cheese manufacturing plant established by his father in 1869. A. S. Thompson was one of the founders of the Farmers National Bank of Delta, in 1900. He was at one time county commissioner.

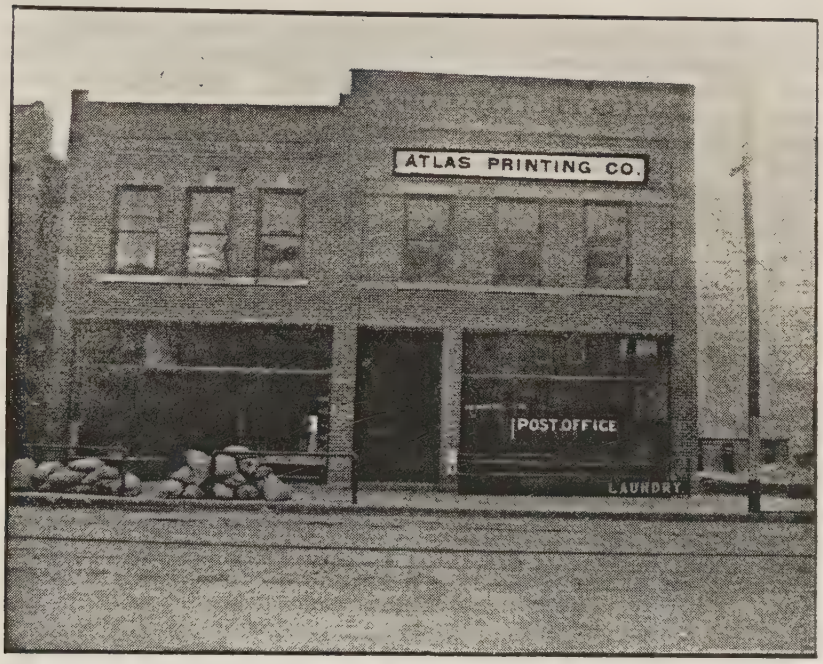
Allen S. Trowbridge, who was a township trustee for eight years, died in 1911, aged eighty-six years. He was a Presbyterian, and was well-known throughout the county.

Edward R. Bowerman, trustee for more than a decade, was "one

of the county's most prosperous and progressive farmers.....a man of strict integrity, of high moral principle and of a sunny, genial disposition." He owned a large farm in York and Swan Creek townships, until he retired to Delta, where he died.

Andrew J. Fraker, trustee for five years, is known to most of the agriculturalists of Fulton county, in his capacity of president of the Fulton County Agricultural Society. He is a successful retired business man, and banker. For some years he was township treasurer.

At the outset, the settlers in York Township had to go from twelve to twenty miles to the river for their mail, the delivery passing up the river weekly. Later, Benjamin Skeels carried the mail between the river and Fort Wayne, over the Plank Road, and then probably there were two deliveries weekly to the postoffices along the road.....It is understood that the first post route established was from Toledo, via



POST OFFICE, DELTA.

Delta, west to West Unity, in 1838, running upon the state road, which was opened in September, 1834, after a survey carried through in that year by Judge Ambrose Rice, who some years later settled in Dover Township, but only for a few years, as he died of consumption in the early '40s.

York Center was the first postoffice established in York Township, that office being two and a half miles west and one mile south of Delta. There was a postoffice named Delta established by William Meeker, on the farm of S. H. Cately, in Swan Creek Township in 1838, and it became the postoffice for York Township residents. In 1842, however, the postoffice was removed to Delta. Thus, the village which

developed near the Trowbridge settlement received a name. Another postoffice, on the south, was that of Beta, which strictly was in Henry county until 1850, it being within the two mile strip then ceded from Henry county to Fulton.

Delta

The village of Delta for many years was a keen rival of Wauseon, and it is still the second in importance of the incorporated places of Fulton county. It is probably the oldest village in the county, its beginning dating back to 1834, when the Trowbridge family settled nearly a mile west of the present village. In 1838 there were two families living on the banks of the creek: that of James McQuilling, on the south side of the state road; and that of G. B. Lewis on the north side. McQuilling ran a saw and water mill, and Lewis seems to have catered to travelers. He opened what probably was the first temperance hotel in the county; and he conducted a certain amount of trading in tea and tobacco, and maybe in other stores; although he is not considered to have been the first merchant of Delta. That honor seems to have been allotted to Eli Kitts, or James Trowbridge. James Trowbridge's store was on his farm, but Eli Kitts came from Maumee City, in 1841, and opened a store on, or near, the present site of Delta. In the next year he died, and at that time the families of Delta numbered four, the McQuilling, McKaskey, Zedaker, and Woods; and in that year, by the removal to it of the Delta postoffice, before-mentioned, the little hamlet became recognized under that name. The next storekeeper, after Kitts, was a man named Griswold. Next came Dan Cummings.

By 1850, the community had undoubtedly grown to such a point that those who lived in it were justified in laying its claims to consideration before the State Commissioners, who were then in the county for the purpose of locating the seat of justice for the new county. The geographical center, where at that time no community had settled, was selected, but with the coming of the railroad, in 1854, Delta, rapidly forged ahead, and another determined effort was made in the '60s to secure the county seat. At that time, however, Wauseon had become of even greater importance, and Delta was again denied. It has, however, always been an active town; and it comes rather as a surprise to find that the 1920 census records a decrease during the last decade.

The first white child born in Delta was Mary Augusta Wood, who was born in 1841. She became a talented authoress, internationally-known.

The first marriage was of William Spencer, son of Rev. Uriah Spencer, to Emma, daughter of James Donaldson.

The first election was held at York Center on June 30, 1836. One of the first justices was Alfred B. Gunn, who later became a county commissioner.

Dr. Erastus Lathrop was the first physician, and he lived in the first frame house built in the township. Dr. Lathrop, however, only lived in it for a few months, both he and his wife dying in 1841, the Lathrop property then passing to J. T. Gates and George Wood.

In 1850, when the laying of a plank road through the township

gave good communication east and west, it spurred on the growth of Delta, but within a year after it was completed, the Lake Shore Railroad came. Thereafter, the rapid growth of Delta seemed certain. The "Delta Independent Press," which was founded in 1854, stated in its tenth issue, that of June 7, 1854: "A connection is now formed by railway between this place and Toledo. A daily train leaves Delta at 12 noon, and returns at 7:30. It is a new era in our history.....The station buildings are in process of construction, and will be ready for the reception of goods by the 15th inst.....The rails are being rapidly laid, and soon, Wauseon, the next station, will be reached." There surely was need for better marketing facilities at that time, for, from the "Delta Market" report published in the same issue of the "Delta Independent Press," one learns that: fresh pork then sold at 4 cents a pound; salt pork at 7 cents; hams at 8 cents; butter at 10 cents; lard, 8 cents; eggs, 8 cents; corn at 50 cents; oats at 37 cents; beans, $1.25 a bushel; and other prices equally low.

Council Records

Unfortunately, the first council records are not available. Still, from the Ordinance Book it is clear that the first mayor of Delta was William Critzer. And, through the courtesy of Editor Waltz, of the Delta "Atlas," it is possible to embody in this history of Delta, an important initial record, that of the original election of officers in the incorporated village. The paper gives the "Names and number of persons voting, and votes cast, at an election for one mayor, one recorder, and five trustees, for the incorporated village of Delta, held on the 10th day of October, 1863." The voters were: L. H. Upham, George Wood, B. Sanger, Peter Zimmerman, O. Waters, Wm. Zimmerman, Simon Elliott, Michael Carr, G. W. Miller, A. M. Carpenter, James Trowbridge, S. Zimmerman, J. S. Trowbridge, B. Zimmerman, W. H. Brinkham, J. D. Colt, Thomas Martin, E. W. Cleveland, G. W. Elwell, Wm. Critzer, John Odell, Thomas Gleason, Wm. Brown, T. C. Brown, Robert Hatton, D. B. Mack, J. K. Crockett, Peter Hancock, Ansel Pease, R. S. Merrill, R. J. Lee, R. Steadman, J. J. Cash, Cyrus Abbott. The judges of election were Robert Hatton, George Wood, James K. Crockett; and they recorded the voting as follows:

"For Mayor: Wm. Critzer received 16 votes; James Trowbridge received 12 votes; Charles Cullen, 4 votes; L. H. Upham, 1 vote; for recorder, Charles Cullen, 29 votes; Wm. Critzer, 4 votes; for trustees, O. T. Clark, 30 votes; Simon Zimmerman, 30 votes; J. T. Gates, 21 votes; A. M. Carpenter, 19 votes; D. H. Pettys, 18 votes." A lesser number of votes for election to office of trustee were cast in favor of: Peter Hancock, Thomas Kelly, J. S. Trowbridge, L. H. Upham, Thomas Martin, George Wood, Wm. Ramsey, John Frounfelter, Wm. Critzer, and William Baker.

Wm. Critzer was therefore the first mayor of the incorporated village of Delta; and Charles Cullen, the first recorder, or clerk.

As far as the record can be compiled from the first Ordinance Book of the Delta corporation, the succession of mayors is as follows: "1863, William Critzer; 1864, L. H. Upham; 1868, D. N. Poe; 1870-71, L. H. Upham; 1872, Robert Hatton; 1873-75, William H. Gavett;

1876, L. H. Upham; 1877, W. H. Gavett; 1878, W. W. Williams; 1879, W. W. Williams; 1880, L. H. Upham; 1881-83, Simon Zimmerman; 1884, L. H. Upham; 1888-89, Chas. Blake; 1890-93, L. H. Upham; 1894-99, N. E. Bolles; 1900-02, Wm. E. Fowler; 1903-05, George A. Everett; 1906-07, A. Y. Montgomery; 1908-09, N. E. Bolles; 1910-11, John A. Wilkins; 1912-13, F. M. Planson; 1914-17, R. C. Holloway; 1918-20, N. F. Carmon."

The Delta Council now consists of M. W. Casler, N. S. Newill, F. J. Shumaker, F. E. Snyder, George Waldeck, B. M. Williams; clerk, C. F. Bower; treasurer, A. T. McComb.

The first village ordinance was passed on March 14, 1864. On February 13, 1865, an ordinance was passed calling for the election of a treasurer and street commisisoner. The latter was to have specific duties, being required "to keep the streets clear of all wood and other encumbrances." The first ordinance regarding sidewalk construction was passed on May 8, 1865, and called for the construction of a board sidewalk on Adrian Street, the sidewalk commencing six feet north of south line of West Street, and extending to lot No. 74. On March 11, 1874, an ordinance was passed "to provide for the cutting down, or mowing, of all thistles and weeds, growing on the streets, or public highways, of the village." Another ordinance forbade the slaughtering of cattle before the stalls of butchers in the streets of Delta.

Fire Company

The Fire Department of Delta seems to have had its inception in the action of the village council in appropriating, or in authorizing the appropriation of two thousand dollars "to provide for the purchasing of a hand fire engine, hose, hose cart, and ladder wagon" for the use of the incorporated village of Delta, "or any regular organized fire department that may hereafter be formed." That ordinance was passed on September 18, 1873. A brick fire station was eventually occupied, but it cannot be determined whether the brick fire station had any connection with the action of the village council in appropriating $3,500, on November 11, 1878, "for the erection of a village hall." In March, 1880, an ordinance "to regulate the Fire Department was passed." The next reference to the subject in the Council Record Book was under date of March 30, 1885, when it was recorded that the village had purchased from Edward C. Crile, lot No. 97 in Gates' Addition for $750, with improvements thereon, "to house Fire Engine and Hook and Ladder implements." It is understood that the brick fire station (which may have been the "improvements thereon" purchased with Lot No. 97) collapsed in 1893, and that the present Town Hall was built on its site.

The Town Hall

The collapse of the Engine House was attributable to damage sustained in the great fire which devastated the business section of Delta in 1892. But it cleared the way for the building of a town hall more in keeping with the importance of the place. On March 17, 1893, $12,000 was appropriated "to provide for purchasing a site, and

erecting a town hall thereon"; and on April 23, 1894, the council authorized the acquirement "of lot No. 96, and twelve feet off lot No. 97, in J. T. Gates' Addition," for the sum of $1,950.00.

The Delta Town Hall is a well-constructed public building, and provides for township as well as town offices. There is also an auditorium, and quarters for the fire station.

Lighting

On November 23, 1885, an ordinance "to allow the Delta Natural Gas Company to lay gas pipes along the streets and alleys of the village of Delta" was passed. An ordinance passed on December 16, 1889, provided "for lighting of Adrian, Main, Delta, Wood, Mill, Providence, and Short streets by gasoline or oil lamps." Eventually, of course, came the electric lighting.

The telephone system was established in Delta in 1899; and on

Town Hall, Delta.

August 31, 1901, right was granted to "the Toledo-Bryan Air Line Railway Company to lay and operate a line of railroad along and upon Main Street."

Remuneration to Officials

An interesting entry in the Council Records is that of April 25, 1881, when the salary of the mayor was fixed at $50.00 a year. At the same time it was decided that the clerk should receive $75.00, and the marshal $50.00, and fees. The present marshal has held office for almost twenty-five years, and the remuneration is still the same as it was in the old days. However, since Prohibition became the law of the land his fees have fallen to practically nothing; his work, likewise. In fact, whereas under the old order, the marshal was customarily

called out twice or thrice nightly, to settle some brawl, a call after nightfall would now be most unusual. Nowadays, the cell at the Town Hall is very rarely occupied.

Delta in 1867

Interesting information as to the business section of Delta is contained in "Brown's Gazetteer of the Michigan Southern Railroad" for the year 1868, the compilation thus presumably having been made in 1867. Summarizing the village, as then developed, the "Gazetteer" stated that:

"Delta contains a population of about 2,000.....There are many good farmers, yet they have not arrived to that perfection of those along the main line.

".....Of mills there are 1 flour mill, 1 saw mill, 1 shingle mill, 1 tannery, 1 pearl ashery, 1 brick yard, 1 hotel, and about 18 stores of all kinds. Nearly three years ago it was discovered that oil could be had here by boring for it. At length a company was organized and operations commenced. After arriving at a depth of 275 feet they struck oil, coming to the top, meanwhile their tools became fast, and unable to extricate them, they were forced to abandon their enterprise, for want of energy and means. In its present condition, enough water flows from it to drive, or rather supply one steam flour mill. At a later date, the citizens, by subscription, have succeeded in boring, and have an excellent artesian well at a depth of 70 feet. This supplies the public highway with water. Churches there are three, Episcopal Methodist, Protestant Methodist, and Presbyterian; the two latter are about erecting a large brick house for worship. Of schools, little can be said praiseworthy, except that all are schooled; $5,000 have been raised towards erecting a new brick school building to be a graded school. Delta is a great stave station, manufacturing and shipping a large amount, some of which go to New York and Europe. Eggs and butter come next, as one of the principal exports. Of eggs alone, Messrs. Moore and Howard ship from 60 to 80 barrels every week during the season, averaging 80 dozen to the barrel."

The directory showed that:

"Chas. Cullin was the proprietor of the Delta Flour Mill, on Mill Street; J. T. Gates and William S. Schlappi conducted the saw mill and pearl ashery; John M. Hall ran the shingle mill, and was also a splint seat chair maker; Bates and Miller were the tanners; John H. Sheffield was the brickmaker; Christopher M. Watkins was landlord of Watkins' (or the Exchange) Hotel, on Main, corner Adrian streets; the following were grocers, or general store keepers: J. Allman and Co.; Wm. Baker, Abner P. Brainard, Chas. Canfield, Orris V. Crosby; Chas. W. Hatton, Wm. R. Huntington, Jacob Huth, Alex G. Montgomery, John R. Parker, Jas. W. Patterson, Calvin Taylor, John S. Trowbridge, Richard M. Watkins; the following were druggists: Frank Briggs, W. B. Brinkham and Dr. Wm. Ramsey, the three trading as Brinkham, Briggs and Company; Jas. W. Hatton; Brinkham, Briggs and Company also dealt in tinware, and stoves; and Thomas Martin in the same; Miss Helen Masker was a hoop skirt manufacturer; Mrs. J. M. Butler, Mrs. Mary Hancock, Miss Millie O. Merrill, and Mrs. S. J. Stillson dealt in millinery and straw goods; Brinkham and Kohl

were saddlers; Michael Carr and Simon Zimmerman were wagon makers; J. N. Cleland was a painter; Chas. C. Crile and Henry H. Reighard were in partnership as blacksmiths, other blacksmiths being Geo. E. Elwell and Co., Wm. Matley; Wm. H. Garrison was the village barber; Rufus S. Merrill was postmaster; J. Denham Mosey was station agent; D. W. Poe and L. H. Upham were attorneys; S. P. Bishop, John Odell, Wm. Ramsey, and W. S. Webb were physicians, Dr. Ramsey being listed as 'physician for county;' Miles S. Pray was a watchmaker; Ansel Pease a butcher; Peter Hancock, a cooper; Daniel Lilly a shoemaker; Lyman Riley, a marble worker; N. H. Simmon a stave and lumber dealer; and Wm. W. Williams the owner of a billiard saloon. There apparently was not a drinking saloon in Delta at that time."

The Great Fire

In 1892 the main business section of the village of Delta was almost wiped out by a destructive fire which started in the livery barn of John P. Holt, on Mill Street, just south of the Hotel Central, and swept rapidly up Main Street. The newspaper headings described it as "the most destructive fire that ever visited Fulton county" making "the beautiful village of Delta a sea of seething flame." Describing it, the Delta "Atlas" reported:

"The fire was discovered in the livery barn of John P. Holt..... The flames rushed out of the front doors as if from a huge furnace. Almost immediately the hotel barn across the alley was on fire, and the flames reaching across the street east, and the Masonic Hall, in which was the 'Atlas' office, was doomed.

"The firemen did all that men could do but the fiery fiend was master. Despatches were sent to Wauseon and Toledo, from which engines were immediately sent, which did noble work. The Delta and Wauseon engines very nearly exhausted the water supply, but fortunately the Toledo steamer had hose enough to reach the creek south of town. The sun was fast sinking before the fire was under control.

"The following is, as near as possible, a list of the losses. On Mill Street, the Hotel Central barn, Holt's livery barn, H. H. Reighard's dwelling, Reighard and Reed's blacksmith shop, and A. B. Thompson and Son's office;

"On south side of Main Street, the residence of Mrs. Hon. O. Waters, Sam Henrick's real estate and insurance office, Masonic hall and Atlas Printing Co., Hotel Central, J. Y. Casler's barber shop, Sherm Trowbridge's saloon, building owned by E. O. Newell, Riley Allen's saloon, building owned by Snellbaker, C. A. Scott, and Son's grocery, building owned by John Thompson, W. L. Smith's grocery, building owned by H. H. Quiggle, Zelner's restaurant, Pease's meat market, and Breckenridge's barber shop;

"On the north side (of Main Street), the Engine House, Houghton's grocery, Mrs. Thompson's dwelling, Dr. Bishop's residence and office, Mrs. Griffin's millinery store and Zimmerman's grocery, buildings owned by Dr. Bishop, O. A. Walker's Art Gallery, Hatfield's meat market, Montgomery's grocery, and U. S. Express office, John Atkinson's grocery and warehouse, Mrs. Casler's residence, Sargent Bros. & Saxton's dry goods store, Fowler Bros' clothing and Crisman Bros. Hardware. All the warehouses and packing houses in the rear of these also went;

"On Front Street, all of the Briggs' warehouses. Dr. Worden's barn, J. W. Davis' brick building, Dr. Wilkins' office, Bolles' livery barn, Gilbert's dwelling and barn, C. Zerman's residence, buildings owned by Montgomery and McGurer's livery barn.

"The loss will run to nearly $200,000. Very little contents were saved."

The "Atlas" printing plant was completely destroyed, and some of the issues of the following weeks were printed on the press of the "Tribune", at Wauseon. The fire occurred on August 18, 1892.

The Masonic Hall was one of the first buildings to be destroyed. However the Masonic bodies are very strong in Delta, and ere long an imposing new brick temple took the place of the old Masonic Hall. It stands on the south side of Main Street, almost opposite the town hall, and is used by the Fulton Lodge, No. 248, of Delta F. & A. M.; by the Octavius Waters Chapter, No. 154, R. A. M.; and by the Aurora Chapter, No. 75, Delta, Order of Eastern Star. The original

HOTEL LINCOLN, DELTA.

charters of two of these Masonic bodies were destroyed in the fire, but the following information is on record:

"Fulton Lodge, No. 248, F. & A. M. was organized on October 19, 1854, with the following charter members: Daniel Knowles, Octavius Waters, Robert Bloomfield, Daniel W. Fashbaugh, Martin H. Butler, W. D. Herrick, Myron Williams, Julius N. Marsh, Isaac Springer, Elisha Williams, Chester Scott. It was thus the first Masonic Lodge organized in Fulton county, and as will be noted, it drew members from other townships than York.

"Octavius Waters Chapter, No. 154, of Royal Arch Masons, was formed on October 8, 1886. The charter members were: Octavius Waters, N. E. Bolles, S. B. Skeels, Frank Briggs, Ed. E. Harris, A. Y, Montgomery, D. W. Fashbaugh, John W. Crisman, E. R. Bowerman, James Fenton, John Shoffner, Thomas B. Waters, L. D. Boyer, C. W. Hatton, H. S. Isbell, W. J. Clizbe, S. G. Aumend, C. J. Wilford, S. P. Bishop, A. L. Sargent, Chas. Blake, Frank Hatton, R. N. Murray J. C. Vaughn, J. B. Fashbaugh, Eli Timbers, J. A. Wilkins, Ozias Mer-

rill, A. B. Thompson, S. T. Worden, M. S. Sargent, Henry Knepper, and A. Q. Price. By the consent of the Fulton Chapter, of Wauseon, a dispensation was granted for the organization of the Octavius Waters Chapter, on April 26, 1886. The first officers were: Frank Hatton, high priest; A. B. Thompson, king; Frank Briggs, scribe; S. T. Worden, c. of h.; Jacob Pratt, r. s.; N. H. Keiser, r. a. c.; N. E. Bolles, 3rd v.; A. Y. Montgomery, 2nd v.; C. J. Willford, 1st v.; J. A. Wilkins, treas.; W. H. Gavitt, sec.; John Shoffner, guard

"Aurora Chapter, No. 75, Delta Order of Eastern Star, was organized in October, 1897, with the following charter members: Z. Maud Ramsey, W. E. Ramsey, Hattie Thompson, Addison B. Thompson, Ira Thompson, Dora Thompson, Eva Grandy, Fred Grandy, Carrie Miller, Louisa Quiggle, Clarence C. Quiggle, Meda Longnecker, Grace Waltz, C. R. P. Waltz, Mary E. Montgomery, Mary J. Huntington, Julia Hatton, Emma Crisman, Minnie Sargent, Octavia Saxton, W. T. Saxton, A. B. Thompson. The first officers were: Z. Maud Ramsey, w. m.; A. Y. Montgomery, w. p.; Hattie Thompson, assoc. m."

Churches

The present churches of Delta are the Presbyterian, Methodist Episcopal, United Brethren, liberal branch, the United Brethren, original constitution, and the Church of Christ.

The Presbyterian Church of Delta has the right to the first place in the record, for it was the first to be established in the village, and township. The Presbyterian Society was active in York Township almost from the bginning of its settlement, and meetings were undoubtedly held in log cabins before the church was built. The first Presbyterian Church was built on Adrian Street, Delta, "at a very early date", stated Historian Verity; and the present fine brick church building, which stands on the opposite side of Main Street, near the Delta trolley station, was built more than thirty-five years ago. It suffered during a recent storm, and it was thought at one time that it would be abandoned, but it is now in comparatively good repair, and in constant use for the strong Presbyterian society of Delta. The present pastor is the Rev. Addison V. Wilson.

Methodist Episcopal Church. What follows has been extracted, mainly, from the "History of the Central Ohio Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church," which stated regarding the Methodist Episcopal Society of York Township, and Delta:

"In May, 1834, at the residence of Sidney Halley, located in what was known as the Six Mile Woods, now Delta, was held the first Methodist prayer meeting. The meeting was led by Sidney Halley. There were present at this meeting Halley and his wife, William Meeker and his wife, Willard Trowbridge, Lydia Trowbridge, William Fewless, Caroline Fewless, Eccles Nay, and Elizabeth Nay. In August 1834, the second public service was held, at the Eccles Nay residence.

"In 1835, at his residence, Rev. Elisha Trowbridge.....a local preacher.....organized....the first Methodist Episcopal society... The first Methodist Episcopal Church built in this section was built on ground donated by Rev. Elisha Trowbridge, located about one mile west of Delta. In this church, Rev. Elisha Trowbridge spent his life in faithful work for humanity, he being the only preacher in the sec-

tion for many years. The second church was built just north of the first church, on the farm of Thomas Bayes, and was ever afterwards called the Bayes appointment.

"William Fewless was the original class leader. The first local preachers were Rev. Elisha Trowbridge, George Wood, and Russell Kimbel. The first regular itinerant Methodist preacher in the Delta district, which was in the Waterville circuit, was the Rev. C. Brooks. He was followed by Shortiss and Coleman, Brooks and Fleming being on the year before. Presumably, the first presiding elder, after Delta became an appointment, was John James, a good preacher, and a very sharp debater. The next preachers were A. Coleman, Chas. Thomas, and Hatch James was followed on the district by John J. Kellam. Afterwards, a man named Campbell travelled the circuit; then Liberty Prentiss and Cushman; then William Thatcher and Samuel Mower. J. J. Kellam was succeeded on the district by Wesley Brooks. The next preacher, on the then Waterville circuit, was T. J. Pope, 1845, Rev. Thomas Barkdull, presiding elder.

"In August, 1847, the North Ohio Conference formed a new mission, called Clinton (Wauseon) Mission, consisting of the following appointments, viz: Delta (then called Bayes Meeting House, about one mile north-west of the village of Delta), York Centre, William Bayes, Clinton Township, Lutes, in German township, Gorham, and Chesterfield.

"In 1847, B. Herbert was the preacher on the mission, with T. Barkdull presiding elder, Barkdull was a very fine preacher and long lived in the affection of the people. When B. Herbert travelled Clinton Mission, in 1847, the most prominent villages west of Maumee and Toledo, and north of Defiance, were Bryan, West Unity, and Hicksville. There were but few brick or frame houses west of Maumee River, and Maumee City then was the place where the principal milling and trading was done as far west as Wauseon.

"In 1848, the Rev. A. Foster was sent to the Mission. Geo. W. Breckenridge was presiding elder in 1849, and Octavius Waters in 1850.

"In the Bayes Church, the Rev. Octavius Waters held one of the greatest revivals of religion ever witnessed in this section. In 1849, the name was changed from Clinton Mission, to Chesterfield Circuit. In 1851 James McKern was the preacher-in-charge, and Wm. C. Pierce was presiding elder. In 1852, John Crabbs and A. Hollington were the preachers; in 1853 James Evans and John Frounfelter. In 1854, James Evans and J. W. Thompson, with David Gray, presiding elder. In 1855, the circuit was first named Delta Circuit, with Martin Perky, pastor, who also travelled the circuit in 1856.

"The first Methodist Episcopal Church in Delta was built by the Rev. Wood in 1856, at a cost to the society of $1,000. Rev. George Wood often preached there, but the first pastor to occupy the pulpit was Rev. Martin Perky. Rev. David Gray was on the circuit at the time of the dedication of the original church in Delta.

"The pastoral succession from 1856 to the present, as nearly as can be ascertained is as follows: W. W. Winters and D. D. S. Reigh; D. D. S. Reigh and G. W. Money; A. B. Poe and P. S. Slevin; A. M. Carey, G. W. Miller, B. Herbert and C. Hoag, S. B. Maltbie, A. C. Barnes, John R. Colgan, A. Coleman, N. B. C. Love, Wm. Deal, John F. Davies, Nathaniel Barter, G. W. Miller, Rd. Wallace, C. W. Taney-

hill, J. A. Ferguson, J. H. Fitzwater, P. Biggs, J. M. Mills, Jefferson Williams, Isaac Newton, Daniel Carter, Frederick Miller, W. W. Scoles, Jacob Baumgartner, F. W. Stanton, F. A. Zimmerman, A. S. Watkins, J. W. Donnan, M. D. Scott, C. A. Moore, P. Ross Parrish, and H. W. Hodge (the present pastor).

"Delta was first made a station in September, 1871; N. B. C. Love was the first resident pastor, and L. A. Belt presiding elder. In 1881, the parsonage was sold, and the proceeds, with additional subscriptions, invested in building the present brick parsonage adjacent to the church.

"On September 15, 1889, Dr. Earl Cranston, of Cincinnati, Ohio, dedicated a new church building, erected of brick, at a cost of $10,000.

"The Delta church has a notable record in Sunday School work. It has been stated that the first Sunday school in that section was a Methodist Episcopal Sunday school. It was organized in 1839, by Willard Trowbridge, Joseph Jones, and William Fewless. Mrs. Mary McClure, Mrs. Sylvia Thayer, and Mrs. Hannah Carpenter were prominent in the early years of the establishment of the school in Delta proper, and from that organization has grown the present prosperous Sunday school of more than three hundred.

"For Sunday school purposes, an addition was made to the church in 1908, at a cost of $2,500."

United Brethren Church (Liberal Branch), was organized in Delta by the Rev. Samuel Klotz, revivalist, who began to preach in the circuit in 1876. At first the meetings were held in the hall above Trowbridge's dry goods store. Later, an arrangement was made whereby the U. B. Society might have the use of the Free Methodist church for their meetings. About thirty-five years ago the members built a frame church building, on the corner of Madison and Palmwood streets, and have since worshipped in that building, which has been twice added to. The church building was dedicated by Bishop Weaver, and was erected during the pastorate of the Rev. George Crawford. The present (1920), pastor is the Rev. Lewis Moore, and the church has about one hundred members, also a strong Sunday school.

The United Brethren Church (old order, or as it is sometimes termed, radical branch, to distinguish it from the liberal branch) separated from the other part of the U. B. Society of Delta in 1889, not being able to countenace modern interpretations of the original constitution of 1841, to which they desired to adhere strictly and rigidly. The members were of the original Delta U. B. Society, and felt that instead of being the offshoot, they were the original society, and as such were entitled to have the use of the frame church that had been built. They were opposed in such desire by the liberal branch, and the resulting litigation went even to the Supreme Court of the United States. William H. Taft, later president of the United States, was at that time a justice of the Supreme Court, and he decided in favor of the liberal branch of the U. B. society. Consequently, the radicals were compelled to seek another meeting house. They erected a church building of concrete blocks about ten years ago, at a cost of $2,300, and have since been governed by the rigid requirements, as to personal conduct and particularly as to the rule on secrecy, of the original constitution of their church. The Delta (radical) Society now numbers about fifty members.

The difference of opinion within the church had been of long standing. In 1874, the Rev. J. D. Snyder, circuit preacher, reported to the quarterly meeting of the Fulton Circuit, United Brethren in Christ, that "the circuit was in good order, though the church is passing through a fiery ordeal in regard to maintaining the rule on secrecy"; and at a meeting held on December 7, 1889, the following resolution was passed: "Whereas a factional element, known as 'Radicals', have by secession separated themeselves from the body of the Church of the U. B. in Christ; and whereas they, in every way possible, disturb the peace and hinder the progress of church work, Therefore Resolved: that the General Boards of Trustees of Church houses, on the Delta Circuit, N. O. Conf., be instructed, by the Quarterly Conference of said circuit, to immediately take absolute control of said church houses, and close them against every intrusion upon our rights as the Church of the United Brethren in Christ."

The "First Quarterly Meeting of Fulton Circuit of the Michigan Annual Conference of the United Brethren in Christ, for the year

STREET SCENE, DELTA.

1867-68" was held at Poplar Grove, on November 16, 1867, and from the minute book of that circuit some general information is culled.

The members of the Quarterly Conference, in 1867 were: J. N. Martin, presiding elder; H. W. Cherry, circuit preacher; O. S. Ward, William Cass, J. H. Fish, G. S. Tuttle, Jackson Jennings, John Miller, Wm. O. Dinius, Wm. Godden, and Geo. Valentine, local preachers. The leaders and stewards of the various classes, or church societies within the circuit were: Poplar Grove class, J. W. McQuillen, and D. Zimmerman; Spring Hill, R. Reynolds and J. Walters; Batsdorf class, George Jennings and Issac Pontious; Blue School, Peter Wise and Benjamin Skeels; Tremain class, A. H. and Elijah Smith.

Poplar Grove was evidently the strongest society at that time, for in the apportionment of salary, it was assessed $95, the next being Spring Hill, $75. In all, the assessment was $345. In 1873, the preacher-in-charge was W. R. Bundy; in 1874, J. W. Snyder was the

circuit preacher; in 1875, S. P. Klotz. In 1877, the circuit included Olive Branch, Zion, Pleasant Grove, Spring Hill, Etna, Union. S. P. Klotz was still circuit preacher. In 1878, he reported: "Formed a new class of 45 at Wauseon." In the next year, 1879, Geo. W. Crawford, who had been presiding elder for many years, succeeded J. W. Klotz, as circuit preacher.

One of the most prominent of the early members of the church in that circuit was J. W. McQuillen, who was secretary of the Conference meetings for many years. He was still secretary of the Delta Circuit in 1899. At the time of the secession, in 1899, the Delta Circuit included Delta, Zion, Union, Grove and Beulah churches.

The Church of Christ, Delta, had its first camp meeting in August, 1888. V. Updike was the evangelist. The society was formed, and for some time thereafter held its meetings in the old town hall. The members however were active and soon found the means with which to build a church. In 1889, the fine brick church building, which is still the house of worship, was built and dedicated. The church stands on the corner of Providence and Madison (formerly John) streets, and its first pastor was J. T. H. Stewart. Among pioneer members were Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Dunbar, Mr. and Mrs. B. F. Miley, Miles Carpenter and wife, Mr. and Mrs. William Norris, Sr., Mr. and Mrs. O. P. Raker, Mr. and Mrs. Henry Grandy. The first elders were: B. F. Miley, Henry Grandy, and Wm. Norris. Deacons: Joseph Dunbar, Joseph Bloom, Lloyd Ransower, Geo. Sheffield. Trustees: Joseph Dunbar Wm. Norris, Jacob Huth, B. F. Miley Joseph Bloom. Chas Raker, clerk. The present membership of the church is about one hundred and forty, and the present pastor, C. W. Perry.

Schools

The school history of York Township probably did not begin until 1837, although a Delta historian referred to the erection of a schoolhouse in the Delta district "nearly a mile west of the present village, soon after that district was settled." Undoubtedly, this was the Trowbridge settlement, which began in 1834, but it was some years before sufficient families had come to that part to make it necessary to provide school accommodation. Probably the first school taught in the western part of the township was that in the house of the Rev. Uriah Spencer, in 1837. His wife, Emily, was the teacher, and a year later Sophronia Fluhart taught a winter term of six weeks and three days therein, receiving sixty-two and a half cents a week for such service, that figure not even including board as later became customary. Samuel Biddle came into York Township in 1842, and settled upon land he had bought in section 17, from Rev. Uriah Spencer. The log cabin he occupied was this hut in which the first school was taught. In 1842 there were, according to the testimony of Samuel Biddle, three schoolhouses in York Township. Verity asserts that the first schoolhouse built in York Township stood upon the Willard Trowbridge farm, one mile west of Delta. One record states that "it was a small cheap frame building", but "it supplied the needs of the times." The probability however is that it was a log house, for the first frame building erected in the township was a dwelling house occupied by Dr. Lathrop in 1840. Catherine Moyer, who came into York Township with her

husband in 1838, stated that she "taught school and took my pay in produce." The schools were primitive, and money was scarce. There was a log schoolhouse in York Township, just over the line from Clinton, at West Barre, in 1840, but it was only used for one year, and then mostly by Clinton Township children. R. C. Skeels, now of Wauseon, but for the greater part of his life, from 1840, a resident of York, testified, in 1918 that when his parents first located in York Township, in 1840, "there were no schoolhouses, but a little later Mrs. Pray taught school in a log house. In 1843, a school house was erected where the Blue school now stands. Children who lived four or five miles distant attended that school, and conditions were undoubtedly hard for the children. Mr. Skeels said: "There were plenty of wolves here in those days", adding that "As I think over those pioneer days my mind goes back to the old log schoolhouse, with desks around the sides. The desks were slabs fastened to wooden pins driven into holes in the wall, and the seats were more slabs, with legs fastened to them. Then there was the water birch that the teacher always had handy and used freely." Mikesell, whose sister Emily was the wife of Rev. Uriah Spencer, and thus was probably the pioneer teacher, wrote: "Most of the pupils found their way through the woods to the schoolhouses, roads being comparatively unknown. Along these school trails they went to school, and at night to spelling schools, lighting their way, in the night time, with torches made from the bark of hickory trees."

A Holmes Smith, who still resides in Delta, was one of the pioneer teachers, and one of the first school examiners of Fulton county, after Martin H. Butler and Aldrich. He goes back in his recollection of school history to 1848. Then there was a schoolhouse, he says, in what was known as the Abram Cole District, south-west York. The first teacher was Mrs. Zimmerman, later the wife of Naaman Merrill. In 1848, there was a schoolhouse at Geringer's Corners, for what was termed the Robinson District. The teacher was Ellen Sanger; another school was at York Centre, and in that schoolhouse the elections were held for several years. The north-western section of the township was served by a schoolhouse known as the Berry District. Two years later, a school district was organized in southwest York, near the Bethlehem Church; Garret Van Fleet was the first teacher in that school. In 1851-52, A. Holmes Smith taught in the Raker School, situated on the line of York and Swan Creek townships; in 1853, he taught in the little log schoolhouse which was situated on what is now the David Savage farm. The log schoolhouse was built by Garner Tremain, and Mr. Smith remembers that the ceiling was so low that he had to stoop "to dodge the post." Many of the later capable school teachers of the county received their elementary training in that log schoolhouse. Among them were the sisters Dumaresq, Henrietta, Jenette, Mary and Kate. In 1858-59-60, Holmes Smith taught in the Salsbury school.

In 1852, a redistricting of schools brought about a change in the location of the Delta District school. One record says that the schoolhouse "beyond the creek" (presumably the original schoolhouse in the Willard Trowbridge settlement, or a later frame building in the same location), was moved to Providence Street, and the first teacher therein, under the new school laws, was Martin H. Butler, who later became one of the pioneer school examiners of Fulton county. Within

a couple of years, however, it was much too small for the needs of the district, and a new school building was erected on the site where the electric light plant now stands. The new school was a one-story, frame building, of two rooms, and it had cost $500 to erect. For ten years, or so, it was used as a school, and during the greater part of that time the cost of maintaining the school was only barely met. Delta was a large school district and the new board of education, in 1852, considered Delta as two districts, when allotting public funds, the able representative of the Delta district on the board of education at that time, and for many years afterwards, being L. H. Upham. He, however, was unable to combat the opposition by representatives of other school districts, who objected to the double allowance for Delta, so that a few years later the double allowance was reduced. In 1861, or 1862, Delta organized separately, and, to meet the requirements of an ever increasing enrollment, had before 1865 built another larger school-

PUBLIC SCHOOL, DELTA.

house, a substantial building of brick, which was erected south of the Presbyterian church, and beyond the creek, near the railroad, southwest of the village.

In 1887 there were thirteen school districts in York Township, in addition to the Delta district. In 1889, the present schoolhouse at Delta was built. Site and building cost more than $20,000, and an addition made to it in 1908 entailed another expenditure of $16,000. At the time of the building of the school, in 1889, it was thought that it was unnecessarily large, and some of the rooms were not completed. However, they became necessary before many years had passed, and when the addition was made in 1908, it was then urgently necessary. The Delta school now has eight rooms for elementary grades, and seven for high school grades. In 1919, the enrollment of elementary pupils totaled to 274, and the high school registers show names of 120 students, for the same school year. The present superintendent is C. C. Smith.

Apart from the excellent facilities of the Delta district, the school

facilities of York Township at present include ten one-room schoolhouses, of the rural class. Only eight are in use, however. The ten houses, with furnishings, and other school property, are valued at $9,580. The enrollment for 1919 totaled to 225 pupils.

The present board of education for Delta village is made up as follows: W. C. Hoch, president; F. W. Cately, clerk; C. P. Geer, Dr. S. P. Bishop, and Mrs. Ida Whitehorne. The board of education of York Township is: Ray Berkebile, president; C. F. Bower, clerk; T. C. Murray, Jr., Ed. Forest, Chas. Shreves and Gale Stickley, directors.

Industries

Delta is the center of one of the most important industrial concerns of the country, one which — with a similar plant at Wauseon — has brought about a revolution in farming throughout the county during the last decade, or so, Formerly Fulton county had many large cheese manufacturing plants, but these did not bring the farmers a very certain, or a very high profit, so that farming activities did not run chiefly to dairying. Nowadays however, since the establishment of the Helvetia plant at Delta, and the Van Camp plant at Wauseon, both with large capacity for evaporating milk, a radical change has come in methods of farming throughout the county, and, indeed, in the individual prosperity of the Fulton county agriculturist. The fine farm homes one sees in a trip through the rural districts indicate that the return from the land must be eminently satisfactory. It has come chiefly by the sure markets at hand for the disposal of all the milk products. The Van Camp plant at Wauseon has the names of more than fourteen hundred dairymen on its ledgers, and the Helvetia plant at Delta is probably quite as large. The Helvetia Milk Condensing Company, like the Van Camp Company, is a nationally known company, and the Wauseon and Delta plants are branches; still, they are adequate to meet the requirements of the district. The Delta plant was built in 1903, and has a frontage of 580 feet and a floor space of 67,000 feet. Its monthly cash payments to milk producers run well into six figures.

Prominent Early Residents of Delta

Many of the prominent residents of Delta will be referred to elsewhere in this, or in the second volume, but passing word as to a few may be permissible. Lucius H. Upham was one of the most prominent of the pioneers of Delta. He came to Fulton county immediately after the erection of that county, coming from Wooster. He held the mayoral office in Delta longer than any other chief magistrate, and he was also prominent throughout the county. In 1856, he was elected to the state legislature; and he was probate judge for a brief period. He will be remembered in Delta as probably one of its most capable pioneers. Octavius Waters comes prominently into civic, fraternal, church, and county record. He was of English birth, and rearing; was well-educated; a sailor in early life, but of innate power as a speaker, and devout in religious conviction. He became a most convincing minister of the Methodist church, and eventually entered upon the practice of law. He was prosecuting attorney for Fulton county for two terms, and became state representative. Also he served

as presidential elector. William H. Gavitt, twice mayor of Delta, was a capable lawyer, and also became prosecuting attorney. W. W. Williams was also a lawyer, and made an able mayor. Alfred B. Gunn was one of the ablest of the active pioneer public workers of York. He was one of its first township officers, and was assessor for many years; and was one of the best commissioners the county ever had. Samuel G. Aumend was prominent for many years in Delta, and to some extent in the county also. He served for several years as infirmary director. Dr. Bishop, J. M. Longnecker, and many other leading citizens will be given extensive review elsewhere in this record, and without tautology it is somewhat difficult to single out for mention here more of those who have had useful part in the building of Delta and York Township.

Population

York Township population in the 1840 census was returned as 435; in 1870, 1199; in 1880, 2572; in 1890, 2629; in 1900, 2509; in 1910, 3137; and in 1920, 2835.

The statistics for the village of Delta are: 1870, 753; 1880, 858; 1890, 1132; 1900, 1230; 1910, 1689; 1920, 1543.

The 1920 figures are, in each case, those of the "Preliminary Announcement of Population" and, therefore, are subject to correction.

CHAPTER XIX

HISTORY OF GORHAM TOWNSHIP

Gorham is the extreme northwesterly township of Fulton county, and, like all of its northern townships, was in the area regarding which there was such serious contention between the Territory of Michigan and the State of Ohio, in 1835, and earlier. In 1802, when Ohio was admitted into statehood, her northern boundary was not clearly defined, and Ohio considered that her boundary extended north to what later became known as the Harris Line. Michigan overlapped, deeming that its boundary reached southward to what became known as the Fulton Line. The matter however lay dormant for many years, for the simple reason that the land in dispute had no white inhabitants during the first two decades of the nineteeth century. But when settlement began, in the 'thirties, it became evident that Michigan was determined to assert what she considered her right. The boundary dispute is dealt with fully in an earlier chapter of this current work, although there is nothing on record to show that the serious friction between the two states seriously concerned the early settlers of Gorham Township. They were more concerned regarding the long journey necessary to cast their vote at York Center, in 1836, when York Township was organized.

Gorham has been under the jurisdiction, or strictly, has been within the bounds, of many counties, including Lenawee and Hillsdale, of the Territory of Michigan, and Williams and Lucas, of the State of Ohio. And consequently, it has been in many townships. Of Lucas county townships, it was at first within the jurisdiction of York, and later of Chesterfield. These are historical details regarding which it is unnecessary here to write extensively, as they have been fully recorded in earlier histories of Fulton county. Suffice it to say that Gorham Township was organized on March 6, 1838, taking then from Chesterfield Township all the territory it now has, excepting what it lost in 1841, when Franklin Township was formed, and the strip it gained from Mill Creek Township, Williams county, when Fulton county was erected, in 1850.

Pioneer Settlers

Hiram Farwell, who came with his wife and family, in the early fall of 1834, seems to have been the first settler. He entered and settled upon the east side of section ten, of town nine south, range one east. He was a man of strong character, and a worthy pioneer, in that he brought with him a religious earnestness which manifested itself among the early settlers of the township. He often preached, presumably in log cabins, and in many ways seems to have ordered his life in accordance with the dictates of a high moral and religious code. He "was a man much esteemed by the early settlers."

The next family to settle was that of David Severance. They settled on the north side of section 36, town nine south, range one west of the meridian, in Mill Creek Township, Williams county. Their land eventually became part of Fulton county, when the latter county was created in 1850. David Severance was the first settler in Mill Creek Township, and as a matter of fact never became a resident within Fulton county, for he died in 1844. But he died upon that farm, and his wife, Esther Knapp, lived upon it until her death, which did not occur until 1887, so that her home for thirty-seven years was in Fulton county. And their children also lived in the county. When Mrs. Severance died in 1887, her descendants numbered one hundred and forty-one. The Severance family, like that of Hiram Farwell, was orginally from New York State, although David Severance was born in Vermont, and from 1819, when he married, he had been a resident in Ohio. Their sons Waldron and Alfred were both, probably, in their early 'teens when the family settled in Williams county, on December 31, 1834.

It is believed that there was also another settler in what is now Gorham Township in 1834. There is very little on record regarding the coming of Abijah Coleman and his wife and family, to town nine south, range one west, but if he came in 1834, it is possible that he and David Severance came together, and were near neighbors; otherwise Abijah Coleman would be the pioneer settler of Mill Creek Township, seeing that the Severance family settled there on the last day of the year in which both are stated to have come.

Quite a number of families came into the territory in 1835. William Lee, and his wife, Sarah Marlatt, came into Gorham from Michigan in 1835. They were orginally from New York State, but had lived in Michigan since 1825, having settled in Franklin county, where some of their children were born. They settled upon section 13, of town nine south, range one east, when they came into Ohio and to Gorham, and there they lived until 1845, then removing to Chesterfield Township. William Lee was a tanner, and currier, and followed such occupations when opportunity came, while clearing the land he had entered in Gorham Township. He took active interest in township affairs, and after removal to Chesterfield was a justice and, for some time, township clerk. His wife died in 1878. Of their children, Lewis A., who was a building contractor, lived in Chesterfield, and held several offices, trustee, constable, and postmaster (at Oak Shade). Almon M., who died in 1896, was county recorder at that time, and his son, George W. Lee, of Chesterfield, was appointed recorder, in his place.

The settlement of the southern part of Gorham Township had begun early in 1835. In the vicinity of Fayette, the Coffin and Cottrell families were preparing the way in the spring, according to family records, which state:

"In the spring of 1835 Freeman Coffin and Clement Coffin, with their families, left Williamsburg, Massachusetts, for the West. Gorham Cottrell and his eldest son, Erastus, accompanied the party. They came to Albany by stage, on the Erie canal to Buffalo, on Lake Erie to Munroe, and by stage to Adrian, Michigan, being seventeen days on the journey.

"Leaving their family with relatives in Palmyra, the four men came

to this locality having bought Government land. The first house they built was Freeman Coffin's, and this was the first house in the township. It stood a little east of, and nearer the road, than the dwelling now on the farm. It was of unhewn logs, cracks chinked and daubed with mortar, or perhaps clay. The roof was covered with 'shakes', made from logs sawn to the desired lengths, and then split. The floor was of planks, hewn out of logs.

"This house completed, Freeman Coffin returned to Palmyra, for his family. They came with their furniture, provisions, etc., in a wagon, drawn by a yoke of oxen, and spent the last night of their journey at the home of Mr. Goss, east of Woodworth's corners. They cut the road for their wagon all the way to their home, taking possession of it on July 10, 1835.

"The Clement Coffin house was built on his farm, adjoining on the west, the one now owned by W. O. Ford. After a year or two, Clement Coffin sold his farm, and went to Iowa.

"The house of Gorham Cottrell was built next, on the farm adjoining Freeman Coffin's, on the east, that now owned by Ansel Landis Ford. Mr. Cottrell's family came to their home in the early fall. His family consisted of three grown sons, three grown daughters, and two younger children. Mr. Cottrell gave to each of his grown sons one hundred and sixty acres of land near him, on which they afterwards built homes, and the locality was known for years as the 'Cottrell Settlement.'

"Forty-five acres were cleared on the Freeman Coffin farm the first summer, and sown to wheat, which produced an abundant crop the next summer. The nearest grist mill was at Tecumseh. Deer and wild turkey were abundant, and the early settlers often received visits from a camp of Indians on what was afterwards the Hosea Ford farm."

Freeman Coffin was a man of good family, and superior education. His cabin was the place in which the first religious services held in central Gorham were instituted. The majority of the early settlers were of the United Brethren faith, and the first service was conducted by Mr. Lillibridge, of the United Brethren Church, who came at the invitation of Mr. Coffin. The latter, however, was a Methodist, and although regular services of the United Brethren Church were instituted, and held in his house, and he worshipped with them, Mr. Coffin would not join their society, his reason being that "their preachers, and they, did not believe in an educated ministry." Because of his religious fervor, and also of his apathy in respect to the United Brethren church, he was called by some of the United Brethren ministers "a speckled bird." However, soon after the first log schoolhouse was built on the Cottrell Settlement, Mr. Coffin invited itinerant ministers of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and in 1838, or 1839, a Methodist Episcopal society was formed.

Mr. Coffin was a well-read man, and followed national questions with interest. He was well-posted on political matters, and throughout his life was a man of influence in Gorham Township, and Fayette.

The Cottrell family will ever be remembered in connection with Gorham Township, for it was because of Gorham Cottrell's connection with it that Gorham Township was so named. How it happened to be given that name is explained in the family records of the Coffin family. It appears that early in 1838 "other settlers had come in and located

in other parts of the township, and a name was agreed upon for the new township." One record states that the name decided upon was that of the birthplace of Gorham Cottrell; in that case, the name agreed upon was Worthington. However, the Coffin record continues: "Erastus Cottrell went to the County Seat to have it confirmed, and there found there was another town of the same name in the state, and then he proposed his father's name for the town and township." The first election was held at the house of Erastus Cottrell, and the post-office first established in Gorham Township was named Gorham (or Forham), and was located in the house of Erastus Cottrell in 1839. Gorham Cottrell and his wife, Althea Whitmarsh, were natives of Worthington, Massachusetts. Gorham died in 1853, and his wife in 1867. He was one of the leaders in that part of Gorham in his day, and his eldest son, Erastus, was even more influential. He was the first justice of the peace in Gorham Township.

STREET SCENE, FAYETTE.

John Gillett came to the southwestern part of the township in 1835, but more is not on record regarding him and his family.

James Baker and his wife were in the township in the spring of 1835, and settled upon section 14, town 9 south, range 1 east. And in the same year came Martin Lloyd, Stephen Chaffee, William Sutton, Asa Butler, and William Griffin. Also in that year several families settled in what was considered to be Hillsdale County, Michigan, but what in reality was on the border line between Michigan and Ohio, part of the land being in each state, striding as it did the Harris line. These settlers were Henry Meach, Justice Cooley, James McCrillis, Sr., Orville Woodworth, Abel Perry, John Gould, and Henry Teneyke. James Baker was an enterprising man, and when it became certain that the Plank Road would be laid through Royalton Township, by Elias Richardson, Baker set up a saw-mill near Lyons, and supplied Richardson and other contractors with all the lumber needed for the Plank Road through Royalton and other townships.

William Sutton, formerly of New York State, is stated to have come to Gorham probably in 1835, but if he did it was only to make preliminary arrangements for the clearing of some of his land in Gorham. He settled in Morenci, Michigan, in that year, and engaged in the hotel business, and did not move to his 320 acres of land in Fulton county until 1838. He lived in Gorham Township from 1838 until 1868, when he went to Medina, Michigan, returning, however, in 1878. He and his wife, Rebecca, were the parents of fourteen children, among them Harvey, a veteran of the Civil war.

Asa Butler was the father of "Uncle" John Butler, of Inlet, Chesterfield Township. John Butler was apprenticed to Alanson Briggs, and as a boy of thirteen rode along the ninety miles of forest trail as a post-boy twice weekly.

William Griffin came in either 1835, or 1837, the latter year being the most probable, being corroborated by family record. William Griffin "was the head of a family of twenty-seven children," states Capt. C. L. Allen, "fourteen of whom were step-children." William, in early life, was a carpenter and cooper, and bought eighty acres in Gorham. His son, William Henry, who was born in February, 1838, is said to have been the first male child born in Gorham Township. William Griffin died in 1843, but his widow lived until 1885, being then a nonogenarian. Their son, James L. Griffin, must be classed with the pioneers of Gorham Township, for he developed much land on the outskirts of Fayette. Further reference is made in the second volume to the Griffin family, which has been prominent in Fayette since its beginning. Mr. George W. Griffin states that he remembers shooting fireworks on the streets of Fayette sixty-one years ago, on the Fourth of July, the day being made memorable because of a sharp frost that morning.

In 1836, many more families came in, the settlers including Levi Crawford, Phillip Clapper, John Whaley, John C. Whaley, Aaron Price, Nelson Fellows, and John Donaldson.

Stephen Chaffee, who settled in the eastern part of the township, was the man chiefly instrumental in bringing into establishment the historic old tavern, the Hardenburg Hotel, at Fayette.

Calvin Ackley came from Fairfield County, Ohio, in 1840, settling in that part of Gorham which was then in Mill Creek Township, Williams county. He was the first postmaster at Fayette, and prominent in the school administration.

Verity records the settlers in Gorham during the four years, 1837-40, as George McFarland, John Jacoby, Elisha A. Baker, Simeon Baker, Lucius Ford, Nathan Shaw, Hosea Ford, Elijah Snow, wife and family, three boys and three girls; George W. Sayles and family; Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Whitman; Abel Paul and family; Justice L. Hale and family; Willard E. Gay, Nathan Salsbury, and his father, Nathan, Sr.; Joseph Sebring, Josiah Colvin, Benjamin Russell, Almon Rice, Milo Rice, John Kendall, M. D., James Griffin, Amos Kendall, M. D.; Hiram Hadley, Alanson Pike, Rensselaer S. Humphrey, and James P. Emerick.

Ansel Ford, according to the family record, is supposed to have settled in Gorham Township in 1842, securing a tract of wild land one mile east and one mile north of the homestead ultimately owned by

his grandson, Ansel L. Ansel and Deborah (Tower) Ford were the parents of ten children, including Charles, Otis, Amos, Lucius, Hosea, Cyrus, and Frank. It was a stalwart family of pioneers. Some of the sons are of good Civil war record, and all took part in the development of Gorham Township and Fulton county. Cyrus was one of the pioneers of the republican party in Fulton county, and one of the daughters married Nathan Shaw.

Regarding some of the pioneers of Gorham, Capt. C. L. Allen writes:

"Gorham Township (in the '50s) was being settled by sturdy pioneers from Pennsylvania and New York. They were a grand assortment of man, well fitted to tackle the dense forests of Gorham, and to hew out the fine farms their children, and grandchildren are now enjoying. Among the earliest, we remember the Hoffman boys, Samuel and Charley—a pair of giants, built for the occasion. There were also the Cottrells, Sardis, Joseph, and Gorham—in the same class—and Elisha Gorham, Freeman Coffin, and also R. S. Humphrey, who in company with Dr. J. O. Allen built a grist and saw mill in 1856. There were the Fords, Hosea, Cyrus, and Lucius—all pioneer farmers, in class 1. Amos Kendall must be counted in, too, as must also Henry, John, and George Gamber—none better ever swung an axe; and none took more pride in a good, well-executed job. Then Henry and James P. Emerick must also have a place among the heroes of old Gorham. William Griffin, and his son, James L., must be counted in with the worthy pioneers, also Nathan Shaw, who arrived here in 1837. He was one of the early school teachers, and afterwards served as J. P. for several years. Israel Mattern was another old J. P., as well as a land clearer in Gorham. There are many others whose names I cannot now recall, but can safely assert that they were as grand and noble a set of men as ever started a country and lived to enjoy it."

Nathan Shaw, a settler of '38, came from Michigan. He taught school for several terms; and held several township offices; was for thirty years a member of the school board; was a justice of the peace, township treasurer and clerk, and generally was a useful, capable, public-spirited citizen.

George W. Sayles, and his wife and children, came from Onondaga County, New York, in 1838. They had six children, among them Benjamin L., who farmed in Gorham for many years, but later in life went into the livery business in Fayette, after having spent some intermediate years as a hotel proprietor in Clayton, Michigan.

Benjamin Russell, by one version, did not settle in Gorham Township until 1844, coming from Seneca, Michigan, where he had been a grocery clerk; but he must have been in the township earlier, for in 1843 he was married to Elmina Ford, of Gorham. One of his children is stated to have died "from the poisonous effect of a potato-bug bite." Benjamin Russell lived for the greater part of his life on section 28, and owned latterly 240 acres in other parts, in addition to 200 acres of section 28.

Another well-known Russell family of old Gorham was that headed by John and Catherine (Fogleman) Russell, who settled upon section 33, in 1853. John died in 1878, and his wife three years later. They had nine children, three of whom, Jeremiah, Ransom, and Rowland,

enlisted for service during the Civil war. Another son, Silas B., married Catherine Hoffman, and eventually succeeded to 140 acres entered by Daniel Hoffman, a settler of '44.

The Hoffman family had a good part in the development of Gorham. Daniel and Christina Hoffman came from Seneca County, New York, in 1844, and lived the remainder of their lives in Gorham, Daniel dying in 1873, and his wife in 1887, she being then ninety-one years old. Two worthy pioneers were their sons, Samuel and Charley, who Captain Allen describes as "a pair of giants, built for the occasion." Captain Allen recollects one visit those "boys" made shortly after he had located in Fayette. He writes: "Sam and Charley Hoffman came up to dinner one day with a fawn, his legs securely tied with basswood bark, and made a feast of him." The two Hoffman "boys" began energetically to clear land soon after the family settled in Gorham, and although they had, possibly, not a hundred dollars between them when they came, they eventually owned a fine farm of two hundred acres; and in addition owned real estate in Fayette. Samuel built two brick stores in Fayette, and for many years, in later life, engaged in mercantile business in that place, first with a Mr. Howard, and later with Mr. Dunnebarger.

Dr. John Kendall was the pioneer physician of Gorham Township. He came in 1839, or 1840, and settled on section 35. He was one of the first judges appointed by the Governor, under the old constitution, to act as associate of Judge Saddler, in the first sessions of Common Pleas Court of Fulton county, in 1850. In the '60s, however, he removed to Williams county. His son, Dr. Amos Kendall, was in practice in Fayette and Gorham for the greater part of his life. His wife, Mary H. McCrilles, will be remembered by most of the older residents of Fayette. She died in 1908, aged eighty-five years, and then "Fayette mourned the loss of one of its grand old ladies." When she and her husband settled in Gorham in 1843, "they lived in a log hut on the ground where Frank Hicker's house now stands," stated an obituary, "and their nearest neighbor was one mile east of town. At that early date, there were only blazed trails through the woods, and for several years they practically lived here alone." One record states that, Dr. Amos Kendall, in 1846, "settled on Bean Creek, near Chatfield's Saw-Mill, and commenced the practice of medicine. He, however, stayed but a few years and then moved back to Gorham, where in later years he died." He was postmaster at Fayette for a term, and justice of peace for many years.

Members of the Emerick family came into Gorham Township to settle in 1849, or 1850. Adam and James P., brothers, took up land in the township, Adam acquiring a tract of sixty acres, in 1851, for $500. Another branch of the family was evidently that of Henry Emerick, who settled in Gorham at about the same time, coming from Seneca County, New York. Henry Emerick purchased eighty acres. James P. and Josiah D. Emerick volunteered for service from Gorham in the '60s.

The Pike family is of honorable record in Gorham. Alanson Pike is a name often encountered in early Gorham records. And L. J. Pike, his son, was one of the leading business men of Fayette for many years. "He was a Civil war veteran, being one of the very youngest of the

'Boys in Blue,' going into service as a lad of sixteen." Judson Pike was born in Gorham on March 31, 1841, and lived his whole life in the county.

The Rice family was from Oneida County, New York State. They settled in Gorham in 1844.

Oliver B. Verity, who himself was an early resident of Gorham, lists the following as early settlers: Michael Martzoff, Ansel Ford, Sr., Asa Cottrell, Daniel Hoffman, Benedict Zimmerman, Cornelius Jones, Henry Emerick, John Saltzgaber, Oliver B. Verity, Day Otis Verity, James Henry Verity, Jacob Woodward, Abram Van Valkenburg, Nathan Salsbury, Jr., Ephraim Sargent, Truman L. Scofield, Jacob Cox, Martin Bielhartz, William Conrad, Amos Ford, Philander Crane, Israel Mattern, Jacob Mattern, A. P. Boyd, Joseph O. Allen, Jacob Demerrit, John Gamber, Henry Gamber, George Acker, Sr., George Acker, Jr., Charles Hoffman, Samuel Hoffman, Isaac Hoffman, Daniel Hoffman, John Paul, Obadiah Griffin, John Woodward, Stilly Huffman, William Davis, Daniel Bear, William C. Ely, Joseph Ely, Benjamin Dee, Stephen Hicker, Franklin Ford, Amos Belden, Bainbridge Belden, John Mallory, Peter Holben, George W. Kellogg, Truman Whitman, John B. Kimmel, John D. Brink, Jared Parker, Peter F. Chambard, William F. Ward, Junius Chase, J. P. Ritter, Jacob Hipput, Thomas C. Lester, J. L. Wise, George Lewis, Ebenezer Lloyd, Lyman Ellsworth, George F. DuBois, George Graves, David F. Spenser, Edward Gamble, A. Amsbaugh, Rial Sweatland, Henry T. Caulkins, Daniel Rhodes, Oliver Town, Uriah S. Town, Hosea Harmdon, Isaac Town, John W. Lilley, George Gamber, Henry Punches, Samuel Farst, Hon. A. W. Flickinger, William Plopper, W. P. Garrison, William Thompson, John Wiley, and Josiah Woodworth. The last-named, however, was not, strictly, a resident of Fulton county, for he lived in Mill Creek Township, Williams county—in the part later ceded to Fulton county and including Gorham Township—and was killed by lightning, about four years before the erection of Fulton county. Verity also names those of a younger generation, "sons and daughters of these old pioneers" who also passed "through all the vicissitudes of a pioneer life": Gabriel D. Snow, Spencer T. Snow, and Dolly Farwell Snow, his wife; Benjamin L. Sayles, Columbus Sayles, and Ellen Scofield Sayles, his wife; Wendel A. Mace, and Amanda Bush Mace, his wife; James McCrillis, and Jane Sutton McCrillis, his wife; A. A. Gay, H. S. Conrad, Charles Conrad, Charles H. Van Ostrand, Thomas T. Baker, Byron M. Hoag, Asher E. Bird, Gorham Cottrell, Jr., Ezekial T. Griffin, George W. Coffin and his wife, Cyrus Ford and his wife, James Brink, John Cox, and Edwin Farwell. And of settlers, by "later immigration," since 1850, he named: Miles L. Wolcott, R. Todd, Harvey Baker, William Kinkaid, J. Reynolds, Abram Schneider, E. Jones, Anson A. Aldrich, S. Youngs, B. F. Robinson, Calvin W. Thomas, John Smith, S. A. Allen, C. Hettinger, John Bielhartz, J. Walkup, A. Kanaur, Thomas Ellis, Solomon Gotshall, S. Oswald, W. W. Oswald, J. Toosley, Herman A. Canfield, William Woolace, Jacob Gorsuch, Solomon C. Wynn, "and many others."

Ephraim Sargent, one record states, was in Gorham Township in 1833, with his father, of same name, and purchased a tract of eighty acres in 1836, for which he paid $250. Another record shows that

Ephraim Sargent, Jr., and his wife, Huldah Collins, were living in Onondaga County, New York, in 1839, for their son, Oscar M., was born there in that year. And that record states that, in 1840, the three generations, Grandfather Ephraim, Father Ephraim, and the infant, as well as the other members of the family, which included four other sons of Ephraim, Sr., "came to Northwestern Ohio, making the voyage by boat on Lake Erie to Toledo, and thence proceeding by railroad to Adrian, Michigan, from which point they came overland to their destination, not many miles distant." Therefore, there is every probability that the statement that the family came in 1833, which would make Ephraim Sargent the pioneer settler of Gorham Township, is incorrect. Ephraim Sargent became "one of the influential citizens and pioneer farmers of Gorham"; was the father of fourteen children by two wives; and cleared a large acreage of wild land. His son, Oscar M., married into the Cottrell family, and lived practically all his life in Gorham Township.

Amos Belding and his family settled in Gorham in 1846, coming from Massachusetts. They purchased thirty acres of wild land in that year, and lived upon that small farm all their lives, having eleven children, among them Eugene A., who married a daughter of Gorham Cottrell.

The Bielharz family has been in Gorham Township since 1846. Martin Bielharz was born in Wurtemburg, Germany, and came to America in 1832, the voyage taking eighty-one days. In 1845 he came into Gorham Township, and purchased a farm of 160 acres, upon which he lived until his death, in 1879. His widow, Mary (Rouch), survived him. Another Bielharz family of Gorham was that headed by Tobias, who probably was a brother of Martin. He settled in Gorham in 1846 also, and in 1856 paid $5 an acre for sixty acres, which eventually passed to his son, John H.

William H. Conrad and his wife and children came to Gorham in 1845, from Cortland County, New York. When they arrived they had a cash capital of $16, and probably little furniture. Yet, William Conrad lived to own almost five hundred acres of fine farm land, and to rear twelve children.

Edward and Elizabeth (Dickinson) Gamble were both of British birth and came from Richland County, Ohio, in 1845. He owned, eventually, 235 acres in Gorham, where he died in 1882, at the age of eighty-eight years. His wife died eight years earlier. They had four sons, Edward, Jr., John, Richard, and William.

Joseph Ely, who married Susan Struble, was one of the most capable of the early settlers. He came in 1838, and he is of record in almost all phases of public work. He was prominent in church work, and held most of the township offices; in addition, he was for fifteen years a county commissioner. He died in 1882.

Jacob and Maria (Goodman) Mattern, with a family of five children, arrived in Gorham in 1846. His record in the township is worthy, though short. He could not resist the call to service in 1861, even though he had many home ties. In August of that year he enlisted in the Thirty-eighth Ohio Regiment, under Colonel Bradley. In 1862, he returned home, discharged, because of physical disability. Soon afterwards he died. Two of his sons, B. F., and J. P., enlisted

with him. J. P. was discharged in 1863, because of sickness, or wounds, but B. F. went through to veteran class. Truly, a worthy family record.

The Gamber family comes prominently into Fayette history. Henry and Polly (Hartrauft) Gamber, and their six children came all the way from Seneca County, New York, in 1852, in a heavy wagon, drawn by an ox-team, and a one-horse buggy was their only other vehicle. They took thirteen days to encompass the distance. He had at an earlier date purchased land in Gorham Township, and the family moved onto it. His property was 160 acres, of, or adjoining Fayette, "eighty acres being on each side of the town, as now established, with Main Street as the southern boundary. He paid $750 for the eastern half, and $800 for the eighty acres on the western side, and about one-half of the present town of Fayette is on the land he thus purchased, and which he cleared and improved." The original Gamber homestead stood where later was built the fine brick residence occupied by their son, John J., who, it is said, came into the township in 1845. There was a log cabin on each tract when Henry Gamber took possession, they being on opposite sides of the road, and about ten rods from the site of the brick residence before-mentioned. All but thirty-seven acres of the Gamber farms has been cut up for town lots. John Gamber, apparently, had another farm in Gorham Township, one of 160 acres, which he purchased in 1846 for $460. In 1863, he sold the farm and purchased a half interest in the steam planing mill of Humphrey and Allen at Fayette. In 1869, he disposed of that interest, and purchased the Fayette Hotel, selling that in 1872, and devoting his time to real estate. He was by trade a carpenter, and was street commissioner of Fayette at the time of the granting of the Charter.

The Van Valkenburg family settled in Gorham in 1847, Henry and Nancy (Hale) Van Valkenburg coming with their children to their tract of eighty acres which he had entered in 1845.

The Powers family is among the prominent families of Gorham today, but they were originally of Chesterfield Township, where they settled in 1844. The family did not buy Gorham land until 1871.

William Punches, and his wife, Catherine Miller, settled in the township in 1850. They had eleven children, and he had four children by a previous marriage. Their son, Henry, was township treasurer for many years, and had a family of nine children.

Several of the Flickinger family were worthy pioneers. Isaac A. settled in Gorham in 1851, and cleared 100 acres, developing a fine farm. Abram M. Flickinger was appointed associate judge of the Common Pleas Court of Fulton county, in the early '50s. And regarding John Flickinger, who died "from a surgical operation" October 31, 1892, Col. J. H. Brigham said: "His first business venture..... was a failure, and empty-handed he left the home of his father, and came to Fulton county, to begin again the battle of life. He taught school winters, and worked upon the farm the balance of the year. He was industrious and frugal.....Shortly after coming.....he married Rebecca, daughter of John Viers, and from that time to the day of his death they have resided in our midst; and year by year we have seen the wilderness where they commenced life transformed into the comfortable home which is left to shelter his loved ones, when

he can no longer labor for their comfort." That was all. John Flickinger had no long record of consequential appointments in the township, county, or state administrations, to add weight to his name. He was called: "John Flickinger, the Pioneer"; a sufficient honor. His labors, and the labors of men such as he, have right of first place in the story of the evolution of Fulton county from wilderness and pestilential swamp to a land of agricultural plenty. The labor of the pioneer settler was the first essential; and to him should be, and is, accorded the premier place in the record of honor.

Cornelius Brink was a settler of 1850. He was then forty-eight years old, and had a family of seven children. James, the youngest, was born in Richland County, Ohio, in 1836. Cornelius died in 1863, and his wife, Hannah (Bodley), in 1883. James farmed throughout his life in Gorham, and for some years was a township trustee. Jacob, his elder brother, appears to have settled in Gorham earlier, for his son Byron was born in that township in 1847. Jacob died in 1853, and eventually, in 1872, Byron bought a farm in Chesterfield Township. He was a capable, progressive farmer.

Anson M. Aldrich came into the township in 1854 for the purpose of lumbering, which was his business. He erected a steam saw-mill,

East Main Street, Fayette, Ohio.

in partnership with James Baker, and in 1856 purchased eighty acres of wild land, which he cleared, and upon which he afterwards lived, rearing a family of eight children.

The Allen family, of course, will always be associated with the history of Fayette. The family is referred to extensively elsewhere, but a brief review should have place here. Dr. Joseph O. Allen, after graduating from Buffalo University, came west, and settled in Fayette, in 1851. He was the pioneer physician of Fayette, and during the years when money was scarce, he supplemented his professional earnings by undertaking a business enterprise, erecting a flour and saw mill at, or on the outskirts of Fayette. He held the principal interest in that business for fifteen years. He also was one of those chiefly instrumental in bringing the Chicago and Canadian Southern Railway

through Fulton county, being the representative of the railroad corporation entrusted with the important work of negotiating for right of way. He was prominent in the local administration, holding many township offices. He also was postmaster at Fayette for two terms. The family home of the Allens was in New York State, and there the parents of the three brothers Allen who came into Fulton county lived and died. Charles L. was the second brother to come to Fulton county and Fayette. He came in 1859, and took up residence with his brother, the doctor. He taught school for a while, and when the Civil war began, in 1861, was a grocer's clerk. He enlisted in the Thirty-eighth O. V. I., in 1861, and in 1864 was invalided. His last capacity was that of regimental adjutant. From that time he has lived in Fayette almost continuously, taking part in the business enterprises of his brothers, which included the founding of the Bank of Fayette, which had a long life. He also became prominent in county affairs, being twice elected state representative. The third brother, Arthur, did not take up permanent residence in Fulton county until 1865. He was one of the progressive business men of Fayette, active also in the township administration. He was township clerk for some years; was a justice of the peace; and was a member of the village council and of the school board. The Hon. Charles L. Allen is one of the contributing editors of this current historical work, and has always shown a sincere and helpful interest in all public work of consequence to the county. In the '80s, he was chairman and speaker at some of the immense open-air temperance meetings held on the fair grounds, more than three thousand persons gathering for one meeting.

Christian Hettinger settled in Gorham Township in 1855, living for the first five years in a log cabin, notwithstanding that he paid $2,100 for the 160 acres he settled upon. Later, he more than doubled his land holdings, and proved himself to be a worthy pioneer.

In 1855 George I. Amsbaugh came from Richland County, Ohio. His son, Relmon D., married Estella, a daughter of Willard E. Gay, who settled in Gorham Township in 1839, or 1841.

William and Mary (Schlotman) Woollace came to Gorham in 1857, Mr. Woollace buying eighty acres for which he paid $1,700. They had six sons, Franklin, Perry, James, Wm. A., Amos, and John E., all of whom had part in the clearing of the land.

Jacob Van Ostrand, and his wife, Parmelia Merritt, came from Huron County, Ohio, in 1860, and lived on their farm of 160 acres in Gorham Township for the rest of their lives. Their son, Charles H., was a capable public servant; he served more than one term as county commissioner, and was prominent locally.

Calvin W. Thomas came into Gorham, from Pike Township, in 1859, having lived in Pike for about four years, during which he had cut much lumber. He cleared a good farm in Gorham, and for twenty years was identified with the school administration.

Noah S. Leist did not purchase a homestead in Gorham Township until 1874, but he was in the neighborhood very much earlier, having come with his grandfather, Daniel Schlotman, in 1859. Land which, thirty years earlier, could be purchased at two to three dollars an acre, he had to pay $55 an acre for; now it would be worth probably $200, or nearly that much, an acre.

So, the labor of the early settlers brought general prosperity to the neighborhood. They were laboring for themselves, it is true, or for their immediate kin, but all the while they were building up the wealth of the community. So, has the wealth and power of this mighty rich nation been developed—by the sweat of the brows of men who were happy in industriousness, who were content with little in return, and who did not expect wealth, or prosperity to come without labor—and constant labor.

Township Records

As to general township history, there is little on record. The early official township records were, it is supposed, destroyed in the first great fire at Fayette. Gorham Township was organized at a commissioners' session held in the city of Toledo, March 6, 1838, and the first election was held in the home of Erastus Cottrell, near what became Fayette, on the first Monday in April of that year. Who the first officers were cannot be stated, but the Cottrell and Coffin families, who seem to have taken the lead in the matter, were probably represented.

The first justice of the peace was Erastus Cottrell, and, according to Verity, the second was Amos Belding; the third, Israel Mattern; the fourth, Jared C. Parker; and the fifth, O. B. Verity. Other justices included Arthur Allen, Amos Kendall, Nathan Shaw, and Jacob P. Ritter.

The first store to be opened in Gorham Township was probably that conducted by Elijah Snow, and later by his son, Gabriel D. The store was established as an adjunct to the ashery the Snows had built on the east side of section 17, town 9 south, range 1 east, although that was not, it is believed, the first ashery built in the township, for Hiram Farwell, the pioneer settler, is known to have been in such business very early. Another ashery was erected south of Handy in 1841, by Philander Crane. The ashery industry appears to have dwindled to one plant only, by the middle 'forties, and for the next fifteen years the Snow ashery seems to have been the only one operated. It was discontinued in about 1860.

The pioneer physician of the township was Dr. John Kendall. He is also stated to have been the pioneer doctor of Franklin Township; and there are so many conflicting records that it is somewhat difficult to decide upon the most feasible. He is, according to one record, supposed to have settled at Pettis ville, and to have died there about 1871. The Gorham record asserts that he settled in Gorham "in about 1839 or 1840, but went to Franklin Township about 1841 or 1842." The county records shows him as of Franklin Township in 1850, when he was appointed associate judge of the Common Pleas Court of Fulton county. And a family record shows that his son, Dr. Amos Kendall, settled in or near Fayette in 1843, and that, with the exception of a few years in the 'forties, during which he lived on Bean Creek, near Chatfield's Corners, Franklin Township, Dr. Amos practiced in Gorham Township for the remainder of his life. Dr. John Kendall, however, it may be assumed did not practice in Gorham for more than one or two years. Dr. Joseph O. Allen was the next to come, settling within the

limits of the village of Fayette, in 1851, and he is claimed to have been the pioneer physician of Fayette.

Fayette

The Cottrell settlement was of course the beginning of Fayette, although the corporate limits eventually developed a mile or so beyond their land. Cottrell's Corners was what might be called the first communal center, and the first post-office was located there, in 1839.

However, the first to settle actually within the bounds of present Fayette was Rensselaer S. Humphrey, in all probability, although members of the Keifer and Gamber families were in the vicinity in the same year, or the next, 1845-46. Verity says that Humphrey "was the first to clear up the land upon which a part of Fayette is located. He built the first log cabin within the present limits of the village, and cut away the brush for a highway, now the main street." He further states that the four pioneers of Fayette were Henry Gamber, Rensselaer S. Humphrey, Daniel Keifer, and Dr. Amos Kendall; and that they were the first to clear land where Fayette is located. Humphrey, in 1845, Keifer in 1846, and Gamber and Kendall about 1848. It seems from other records, however, that Henry Gamber did not come to Fayette until 1852, although his son, John J., was in the territory in 1845, and purchased a farm of 160 acres in 1846.

Rensselaer S. Humphrey, however, seems to have been the most enterprising pioneer, and his action in establishing a store and blacksmith's shop upon his farm seems to have been the influencing factor in drawing to the vicinity other settlers. Dr. Joseph O. Allen came in 1851, and he was equally progressive. He associated with Humphrey in more than one business enterprise. Humphrey built, and in partnership they conducted, the first saw-mill in the township, it being put into operation on Humphrey's farm in 1856. In that, or the next year, they erected a steam grist mill, also the pioneer grist mill of Gorham. And that well-known flouring mill is still in operation, the plant now consisting of flouring mill, saw-mill, boiler and engine house. The flouring mill covers 30x40 feet of ground, and is three stories high, with basement in addition. Its present capacity is seventy barrels of flour and 1000 bushels of feed in twenty-four hours; and it is equipped with a new 70 horsepower boiler and a 60 horsepower engine. The saw-mill makes an average cut of 6,000 feet, or about 500,000 feet in a year, 300,000 feet of which lumber is shipped to other markets. Therefore, it will be seen that the industry begun by Humphrey and Allen has been of much consequence to Fayette throughout the whole of its life.

Captain Charles L. Allen, who joined his brother in Fayette in 1859, and has since made it his home, save for the years of the Civil War, when he went into the zone of strife, has therefore been able to watch its growth almost from the beginning. He is now in his eighty-second year, yet his activities, mental and physical, are those of a well-preserved man of sixty, or less. His recollections are valuable historically, and a few years ago, he fortunately put them into local print. He wrote of "The Early History of the Old Normal Town" as follows:

"The 'Old Tavern.' The old Hardenburg Hotel was the first

tavern to open its doors in welcome to the sojourners of this, then sparsely settled, corner of God's country, Gorham Township.

"William Hardenburg, the proprietor, came here at the suggestion of his brother-in-law Stephen Chaffee, a pioneer farmer of the township. Hardenburg was an operative Mason located in Providence, R. I., and he came, accompanied by a carpenter, and all the ready-made accessories necessary for the construction of a 'Tavern', as he termed it.

"It was a roomy two-story-and-basement building, in size forty by eighty feet on the ground. In those days a ballroom was second only to the bar, as a source of revenue, and with this important matter in view a spacious ball room, 40x40 feet, capable of accommodating 100 dancers, was finished on the second floor, the balance being devoted to sleeping apartments. The porches in front furnished the best quarters possible for visiting and social interchange of opinions, while the convenient bar was accessible at any old time its patrons considered necessary.

"This house was opened for business July 4, 1866, and the day was ushered in by salutes of cannon shot from midnight to sunrise. The whole country for miles around 'heard the joyful sound', and soon there commenced to gather the biggest crowd that Fayette had ever seen. They came from far and near, the old and young, the boys and girls, all flocked to Fayette, to ascertain the cause of the unusual commotion, and incidentally to spend the Fourth, and work up a dance for the evening.

"Some came prepared to stay, others took chances on the hotel feed room, and village groceries. The result, as near as the writer recalls, was that our neighbor, Morenci, was called upon for help to feed the hungry; and, it has been said that only by steady work at a nearby pump was the bar supply kept out of the hands of a receiver. Anyway, it was a big day, a fact that has never been successfully disputed.

"There is no question but the advent of the Hardenburg Hotel was an important factor in the growth of Fayette.

"Fayette in 1866. There was, at the period of its advent (1866) two small general stores in Fayette, the oldest on the corner now occupied by the Farmers State Bank, and run by G. W. Thompson and A. D. Cadwell, both of whom have long since joined the silent majority beyond the river.

"Among the prominent citizens of Fayette at this time (1866) it might be well to mention the names of some who gave many hard days work and earnest thought to the improving and building up of the village. The list of grand old pioneers was, in part: R. S. Humphrey, J. O. Allen, Henry Gamber, Nathan Shaw, L. Ellsworth, J. B Snow, P. F. Chambard, J. P. Emerick: and then, from nearby country the Coffins, Fords, Griffins, Matterns, Gorhams, Chaffins Aldrich, Rices Ritters, Gambers and many others of equal worth and benefit to a growing community. Yes! and there was John Gamber. 'Uncle John', of blessed memory, always to the front in good works, an inspiration to all helpers. All of these grand old heroes of the early days of Fayette have passed away. They rest from their labors, but in very truth, 'their good works do follow them.'

"The several parcels of land upon which Fayette is located were taken up from the government: that on the north-east corner, by

Hemon Leonard; southwest corner, by Justice Cooley; northwest corner, by Hiram Farwell.

"At the time the hotel was built, there were four blocks, one on each corner, with eight lots to a block. Across, south of the hotel was the general store of Allen Bros., and on the southwest corner a store owned by a Mr. Wightman, who a few years later sold to Jared Parker, was located. He moved his stock of goods from Handy. There were two blacksmith shops, one on the site now occupied by Wright Carpenter, who followed that vocation there for many years. The other was located near where the electric depot now is, and was owned by William Barringer; while on the north side of the street Remington Taylor had a workshop and dwelling. He was a wagon-maker. Cutting Wiley also had a wagon shop, located about where the express office now is, across west from the old bank building. These, with the dwellings of Dr. J. O. Allen, G. W. Thompson, and the dwelling now occupied by Dr. Berry, constitute a good share of the buildings then occupying the four original blocks of the village.

"The Mill. A few years before the hotel was built, say about the year 1853, the grist and saw-mill was built by J. O. Allen and R. S. Humphrey. The building and putting into operation of this mill was the prime factor in making the village out of Gorham Center. Prior to that date, it was the custom of the people to go to Medina, Michigan, to mill, a long and hard day's work. Many of the farm teams wore horns and worked without a harness. They were perhaps more perfectly reliable than the present-day automobiles, but when the short-of-rations farmer started to Medina to mill from Western Gorham, it was a sad parting from his family, for his return, as to date, was an uncertain quality. Tradition tells us, however, that they all got back—sometime. There is no record of deaths from old age on the trip.

"The mill has been running every week since its construction, and one of its engines has been in constant service to this date.

"The School. The school house, when the hotel was built, was located where stands the residence of Mrs. Ella Ely. It was a small two-room building, and, being located in the woods, the teachers had everything in their favor in securing good government. Since then, there have been three fine brick buildings built in Fayette for school purposes, and Fayette has established the reputation of furnishing superior facilities for educational purposes, Wisman, Ewers, Dodds, and Perry, and last, but not least, Clark, proving instructors and organizers of more than ordinary ability.

"The Railway. The Chicago and Canada Southern made Fayette a railroad town in the year 1871; and George Letcher built a grain house, and made this one of the best grain markets in northwestern Ohio. He did a large business in grain, seed, and dressing pork, and about this time opened a bank, which also gave an impetus to the business of the place. He built two fine brick blocks, one on the corner of the Farmers Bank, fronting west, and one on the corner of the old Bank of Fayette.

"A fine opera hall was on the second floor of the last-mentioned He sold his banking interest to Bryan Baxter, in about the year 1882, and in 1885 sold to Allen Bros. and Trowbridge. C. L. Allen bought the east half of the bank block, and Allen and Trowbridge bought the

bank building. These buildings were burned down, and afterwards rebuilt by C. L. Allen, and Trowbridge.

"There have been two banking institutions established in Fayette within the last few years, the Farmers State Bank, and the Fayette State Savings Bank, while the old Bank of Fayette went into liquidation in September of 1913, after twenty-seven years of satisfaction to all of its patrons.

"Pastimes. And how about the hotel? In the big fire that burned up Fayette root and branch, the old wooden hotel, with its myriads of occupants, went with the bunch. It changed owners and occupants many times, but always kept up its reputation. The last owner was Mr. L. Hitchcock, who, on the site of the old one, built the brick structure which is known as Hotel Central. Referring again to the 'Old Tavern', it passed through many hands, and various landlords served the public. Vince Brown was perhaps the man who came near-

est being an all-around hotelman, although Woollace and Carpenter (Jim and Wright) were close seconds. In the days of their popular reign, there were frequent gatherings. The farmers came in and spent their leisure hours in a species of recreation that in these latter days seems to have been forgotten.. But they were a jolly good-feeling crowd. There was Hank Emerick, Ben Dee, George Gamber, Ace Bailey, Squire Mattern, John Whaley, Nate Salsbury, Milo Rice, Steve Chaffee, Jim Baker, Benjamin Russell, Cy Ford and many others who were wont to gather. Pitching quoits was a favorite pastime. As a rule, there would be four contestants, or rather four pitchers, in pairs. They used horseshoes for quoits, and the party first securing ten points was acclaimed the victor. The penalty for the defeated was 'the drinks', and (in the language of the preacher): 'Hence you perceive' there were frequent calls upon the dispenser of the needful. Thus, they whiled away the time. But there were, in connection with this passing of time, other games of chance, including wrestling, square holds and side holds, back hold, and rough-and-tumble, now called catch-as-catch-can. The younger (18 to 25) took part in these exercises, the

penalty of defeat being the same as in the quoit contests. Sometimes one of the old fellows would think he was it, and would take a chance on a fall with the young fellows; in this case there were devious results. They were a jolly lot of old scouts, and I have my doubts as to there having been any improvement in these latter days on the real enjoyment of pioneer life and early day recreation.

"The 'Old Tavern,' Bill Hardenburg's monument, although long since reduced to ashes, will forever be a cherished memory, so long as there is living a Fayette citizen who was present at its christening.

"Fayette has grown to be a thriving village of more than one thousand happy citizens. We have our churches, our schools, our lodge rooms, our splendid stores, railroad and mail facilities, electric lights, produce dealers, a live paper and, to cap the whole outfit, a commerce club, a genuine booster; while our grain handling, coal delivery and lumber yard are second to none. Happy proud Fayette!

"The Grit of the Pioneer. Now, while you think of it, take another look at the old landmark, the hotel of '60. Think of the gall a man must have had to erect such a monster in a town of 200 people, in a sparsely settled neck of the woods, eleven miles from a railroad, with the wild woods crowding the back door! But men of gall and pluck lived in those days. The men I have mentioned, the first settlers in this now 'Garden of the Gods', were the kind of material that build great nations. They never knew the meaning of the word 'quit.' They shouldered all the vicissitudes and inconveniences of pioneer life, pressed sturdily forward, conquered all difficulties, and their manly efforts crowned with victory are the heritage of the generation now enjoying the fruits of their labor. The old man, Hardenburg, after leaving Fayette, kept a hotel in Archbold, and from there he returned to his old home in Providence, where he died full of years and many good deeds.

"In the reminiscences I have jotted down, there may be some slight errors as to dates. Unimportant they are, as there are but few now living to dispute them, and a year or two in ancient history doesn't count.

"Old Time Lodges. Referring to the old-time lodges of Fayette; the Masons and Oddfellows are in a class by themselves. The order of F. and A. M. was instituted in Fayette A. D. 1867, with William Sutton, W. M. and C. L. Allen, secretary. Of the charter members the sole representatives now remaining are James Grisier and C. L. Allen. The lodge is now in prosperous and healthy condition, with C. D. Hause, w. m., and Prof. Clark, secretary. They own their pleasant and commodious lodge room, are well equipped and have a good surplus. The increase in membership fully makes up the losses. Of the Oddfellows, the same may be said. They are a strong lodge, own their own lodge room, and are abundantly able to care for their unfortunate and needy wards.

"The Eastern Stars and Rebekahs, in their several worthy and important interests are reliable adjuncts and fully and cheerfully do their important parts in maintaining the organizations.

"Next in line is the G. A. R., instituted soon after the war. No. 108 in the roster, old but tried and true. The charter membership consists now of just three of the original boys, C. L. Allen, G. W. Heckman, and H. B. Donaldson. Death removes our comrades, and we may not recruit from non-soldiers. The total membership is now

twenty-two, and they are, as a rule, white-haired, and wear a cane. The W. R. C. are their right hand supporters, and having the advantage of recruiting from the ranks of all loyal women, old and young, they are the backbone of the G. A. R.

"The Knights of Pythias, the Woodmen, the Maccabees, the Eagles, are grand and helpful institutions, having flourishing lodges in Fayette, and add their influence to the pleasures of living in a live, up-to-date town.

"In conclusion, it may be well to say that there are among the old timers still living, a feeling of reverence for the Old Tavern. You live over again the years of change that have intervened, and in your mind you conjure up the structure as a marvel of architecture; a something that seemed a revelation of the 'good times coming.' And so it was, for it is safe to say that the 'Old Tavern' was, in the hearts of the people of Fayette and vicinity, a 'joy forever.' They date its advent, in their book of memories, as the opening day for Fayette supremacy; and is it not a fact that now, fifty years after, Fayette adopts, as her slogan, the proud ensign: 'Best Yet-Fayette.' And so make it be."

Regarding early times in Fayette, Captain Allen recently added to his reminiscent writings. He said that Frank Ford "who was more of a hunter than a chopper, used to keep the community well supplied with venison, turkey, and other game, which at that time was plentiful." Regarding the hotel, he said that "people came from far and near, to trip the light fantastic, and sample Uncle Bill's wet goods; sometime there would be from 150 to 200 couples; and upon such occasions 'straight goods' would be dealt out until 1 o'clock, but that from that time forward the well furnished a large portion of the wet, so that very few arrived at their homes showing indications of over-indulgence." But, he adds, "the country was new, the whisky pure, and the imbibers strong and poison-proof." He says that "the early merchants of Fayette were Caldwell and Thompson, who succeeded Boyd, Wightman, Jared Parker and Son, and Allen Bros., all of whom kept what is known as 'General Stores'—that is, they kept everything from cambric needles to plows, drags and cultivators, with a fine line of dry goods, notions, clothing and boots, drugs and medicines included."

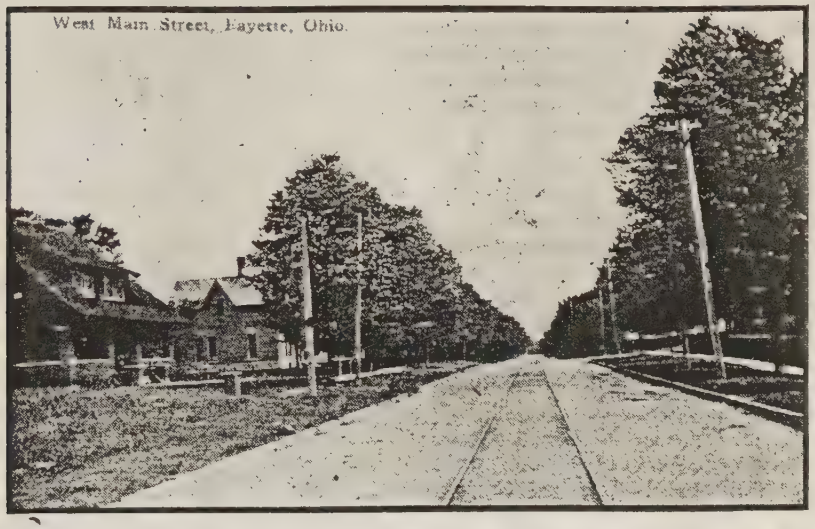
Gorham and Fayette's Civil War Record

Captain Allen lists the volunteers who went into military service from among the residents of Gorham Township and Fayette, his list being as follows: B. F. Mattern, J. L. Brink, G. W. Hickman, Henry Donaldson, J. P. Mattern, Martin Kuney, Hiram Tator, William Westfall, Ansel B. Ford, Austin F. Ford, Jos. G. Rice, Lorenzo Gamber, J. P. Emerick, A. B. Ely, J. C. Snow, L. P. DuBois, L. B. Coss, M. O. Ford, J. A. Austin, J. L. Wise, Wm. Wright, J. K. Severance, Frank Woollace, H. M. Rice, Seymour Rice, C. L. Allen, Boyd Piper, Jacob Mattern, Emmet Emerson, Frank Hickman, John Hickman, B. Nothnaugle, W. H. Griffin, W. H. Sayer, G. P. Cottrell, C. H. Keith, John Eddy, Josiah D. Emerick, H. Fellows, James F. King, D. Looker, J. H. Looker, F. D. Mathias, J. W. Osterhout, David Palmer, Hiram Pike, S. D. Snow, S. Smith, Henry Snow, M. L. Wise, Otis J. Wing, Alva Mallory, Orison Dee—"fifty-three all told, and perhaps some

omitted" commented Captain Allen, "a grand showing for the sparcely settled Gorham." Only eight of these patriots are now living.

Fayette has always been whole-heartely patriotic. During the Spanish-American war, it had its representatives in service, and during the recent world war its young men went forth in numbers that compare with those of the 'sixties. And those at home supported the boys in service and the nation at war with a full one-hundred-per-cent patriotism. Gorham Township was the first to go "over the top" in the war chest drive; and Fayette was the first of Fulton county towns to win an honor flag in at least two of the campaigns for the subscribing of the Liberty loans—in the fourth and fifth. And Fayette showed its true feeling on the night of April 13, 1918, when noteworthy incidents attended its Honor Flag raising. It is said that "thousands attended the celebrations," and on that night "all the German textbooks were gathered from the public schools and burned on the public square" to signify that "henceforth America must be for Americans."

According to Verity, Fayette was known by that name as early



as 1852, although Captain Allen, writing of Fayette of some years later, refers to it as Gorham Center. Mikesell writing in 1916 stated that the first postoffice—that located in the home of Erastus Cottrell, near Fayette, was named Forham, although Verity writes of it as Gorham Post-Office, stating that its name was changed to Fayette, when it was removed to that place. Fayette was incorporated in 1872. July 4th of that year was a memorable day for Fayette, for it was on that day that the Chicago and Canada Southern Railway Company completed the construction of its line to Fayette, and ran the first train over it. The Toledo and Western electric system also passes through Fayette, and within a mile and a half, north, of the village is North Fayette Station, and the Wabash system; consequently, in railroad facilities, Fayette is fairly-well served. In 1887, its business establishments included the general stores of A. P. Grisier, Howard and Company, Huffman and Company; groceries of John F. Shaw, F. Vernier; clothing stores of L. A. Purcell and Acker and Sons; drug stores of Rorick and Cawley

and Andrew L. Kendall; hardware store, Perry and Allen's; one bank, the Bank of Fayette; the flour and saw mills; three blacksmithing and wagon-making shops; a good newspaper; a higher grade school, and several churches, and many fine residences made Fayette a well-balanced self-contained community center.

The Fayette "Review," summarizing the town in 1908, stated that it then had "three churches, a superior public school, an opera house, three banks, two hotels, a flouring mill, two saw mills, stave mill, canning factory, creamery, elevator, handle factory, planing mill, lumber yard, telephone system, a good bank, two good orchestras and a strong and well edited newspaper." There are now only two banks reference to which has been made in an earlier chapter, but, substantially, Fayette is the same as in 1908. It is a pretty village, and an ideal home center.

Lodges

There are many strong fraternal organizations in Fayette. The Gorham Lodge, No. 381, Free and Accepted Masons, was organized on March 5, 1867, with eighteen charter members. The first worshipful master was William Sutton; the present is C. W. Westmore. Its present strength is ninety-two members. The Fayette Chapter, No. 77, Order of Eastern Star, was organized on October 13, 1897, with Stella Amsburgh, worthy matron. It now has ninety members, with Mary Gunsaulus as chief officer. The Fayette Lodge, No. 431, of the Independent Order of Oddfellows, was organized on May 14, 1869, with fifty-eight members, the first Noble Grand being G. D. Snow. It has ninety-five members, Chair Ford being Noble Grand. The sister organization of Oddfellows, Rebecca, No. 322, was organized on May 22, 1891, with fifty-two members, J. Keller being the supreme of the first officers. The Knights of Pythias order is represented in Fayette strongly, having ninety-four members, with N. M. Owens, chief officer. The lodge was formed on May 24, 1895, with forty-eight charter members. W. J. Connell led the first officers. The Pythian Sisters, of Fayette, has been established for thirteen years, the Charter being dated April 15, 1907. There were thirty-eight charter members. The local Woodman Lodge, No. 1035, is also strong. It was formed on January 17, 1902, with forty-nine members. M. Sebring is the present chief officer. The G. A. R. and the W. R. C. bodies are referred to elsewhere. The above lodge statistics were contributed by Captain C. L. Allen, who has ever been ready to undertake any work of public interest, or import, to the place of his adoption.

Schools

Former county historians have stated that the first organized school district in the township of Gorham was in the Cottrell settlement, in the year 1836. The first school may have been in that settlement; it probably was; but family records of the Coffin and Cottrell families show that it was not until 1838 that the first schoolhouse in that district was built. From these old records, a descendant some years ago wrote a historical article, which was published in the Fayette "Record." The article stated that "in the spring of 1838, the first schoolhouse in the township was completed. It was built of hewn logs,

and located on the northeast corner one mile east of Fayette, on Obadiah Coffin's farm, now the Landis Ford. The first teacher was Lucinda Rodgers, afterwards Mrs. Alanson Briggs, of Chesterfield. The teacher for next and several successive terms was Marie Lloyd, afterwards Mrs. Joseph Cottrell, who came here from her father's home, near Bryan, some forty miles through the woods, on horseback. Among the scholars were the children of Ephraim Sergeant, George Sayles, Aaron Price, and Elijah Snow." Incidental to those early school days, the record states "that after Erastus Cottrell was appointed postmaster of Gorham, or Forham, Post-office, in 1839, that office was situated a few rods south of the schoolhouse, on the farm now owned by Elbert Cottrell. The mail route extended from Defiance to Adrian, and the mail was brought every Thursday by a man on horseback (young John S. Butler of Chesterfield, a boy of thirteen, was the mail carrier over the route in 1838 and for many years thereafter) who blew a horn as he came near the post-office, greatly to the delight of the little people in the schoolhouse. There were no postage stamps in those days, and each and every one who received a letter must pay twenty-five cents postage upon it before he could get it from the office." The Cottrell Settlement schoolhouse was used for about fifteen years, for both school and church purposes, and was standing as late as 1862. It was, however, not used for church purposes after 1850, for in that year the Methodists built a frame structure "across the road from the corner opposite the schoolhouse", on the southeast corner of the northeast quarter of section 20, town 9 south, range 1 east." It was the first church building in the township.

The first frame schoolhouse to be built in Gorham Township was erected by Renssalaer S. Humphrey in what was called the Snow Settlement, in 1842. Soon afterwards, another district was organized in the eastern part of the township, and a log house raised. In that school, in 1844-45, Oliver B. Verity taught for fourteen dollars a month.

A log schoolhouse was built, in 1842, or earlier, in the southeastern corner of section 26, and was known as the Severance schoolhouse. It had no legal organization, and was supported by subscription. Elizabeth Freeman, who later married Waldron Severance, was the teacher of the summer school of 1842. In 1845, a frame schoolhouse was built on the northwestern corner of section 35. It was truly a "little red schoolhouse", being thus distinctively painted. Minerva Cottrell, daughter of Asa Cottrell, was the first teacher. Its location was later changed to the south side of section twenty-six.

As to the schools of Fayette, which is sometimes called "The Old Normal Town", the Hon. Chas. L. Allen writes:

"Fayette grew and prospered, and soon the villagers began to think it would be a good place to start a school, with better facilities for the education of the colony of youngsters, who were accumulating very rapidly. Our district school was overcrowded, and another building was erected. Mr. E. P. Ewers came here, and with Mr. John Ogden began the work of soliciting funds for the erection of a commodious building—with boarding-house attachments—to be known as the Fayette Normal, Music, and Business College. This enterprise continued for several years, with a fair degree of prosperity, when the management, for a reason never ascertained, transferred their interests

FAYETTE PUBLIC SCHOOL.
(Formerly the Fayette Normal University.)

to Wauseon. The Normal College building was vacated, and remained so for a few years. Finally, it was separated from its foundations and sold for junk. This roused the citizens of Fayette from their long sleep, and soon a fine building, now known as the Fayette High School, was erected. This, under the management of the Dodds Bros., was from its inception a success, and at this writing the school is sustaining its reputation of being among the very best of its class in the county."

The Normal College was first opened in 1881, and in 1888 was closed, and eventually demolished. Regarding this phase of Fayette school history, Thomas Mikesell wrote, in 1905:

"Appreciating the value of such an educational institution, the people of Fayette immediately set about securing another school of like nature; and, in September, 1888, the Fayette Normal University was opened to students. The school flourished exceedingly for a number of years but, finally, the citizens of Fayette became convinced that its presence in their midst militated against the complete success of their graded schools. Consequently, they withdrew the necessary support from the institution, and.....in 1905 the Fayette Normal University closed its doors, and went out of existence."

Professor C. D. Perry, the present superintendent of schools of Fulton county, states that "the second Normal first opened in the old Normal Building, which for a few years after the construction of the brick schoolhouse was used as a commercial college." Whether the commercial college was a private and separate enterprise is not clear; it is known that all the departments of the Normal University were eventually, and without much delay, housed in the new building; and it therefore seems that the business college of that time had no connection with the commercial department of the University. J. E. Dodds was the first president of the Normal University. He was succeeded by P. C. Palmer; and for the last two sessions George Tripp was president. The university closed its doors in 1905, and a high school, maintained by public funds, took its place, and building. The first superintendent of the Fayette High School was Prof. C. D. Perry, who in 1915 was appointed county school superintendent. The present superintendent at Fayette is T. P. Charles.

In addition to the higher Fayette school, there are at present ten district rural schools in Gorham Township, the ten being valued at $14,300, with the requisite appurtenances of such establishments. The registers of the ten schools show that 215 scholars attended for the school year of 1919.

Church History

Probably the most prominent members of the Methodist Church Society in early Gorham belonged to the little settlement near Fayette. The Coffin family early sought a place for worship, and in the absence of other facilities permitted their log house to be used for devotional purposes, being sufficiently broad-minded to allow it to be used by settlers of the United Brethren sect, and also to participate in their services. However, the organization of the Methodist Episcopal Society in Gorham Township may be considered to have had its beginning in the work of the Rev. David Grey, an itinerant minister of a Lucas

county circuit of the Michigan Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Soon after the building of the first log schoolhouse in the Cottrell Settlement, the Rev. David Grey was invited to visit the settlement, and hold religious services in the schoolhouse; and, it appears that, in 1838, or 1839, he came, and organized a Methodist society, which consisted, at first, of four members, namely, Freeman and Hannah Coffin, and Shubael and Ann Worden. "This was the beginning of the church organization now located at Fayette," stated a family record. Miss Ellen Coffin published "Reminiscences," in the Fayette "Review," of August 26, 1909, issue and, regarding Methodist Church history, stated: "In the winter of 1850, probably in December, our new church at Gorham, now Fayette, was ready for dedication. It was dedicated by the Rev. J. V. Watson." That, obviously, was the building referred to in the Coffin family records, which read: "The first (church) building in the township was a plain white frame building, across the road from the corner, opposite the schoolhouse, and was erected by the Methodists in the year 1850." And, undoubtedly, it was the one of which Verity wrote in 1888, when compiling Gorham Township history. He stated: "In 1853 was built the first church of the township, and dedicated by the Methodist Episcopal denomination; it was originally located in the southeast corner of the northeast quarter of section 20, town 9 south, range 1 east, at what has been called 'Cottrell's Corners,' and stood there for a number of years, when the center of the Methodist population shifted to Fayette, to which place the church was removed. The building was destroyed by fire in 1859, or 1860, and a substantial brick structure was erected in the place of the old one." George W. Griffin, of Fayette, who has been a prominent church worker, identified with the Methodist body, for many years, states that it was in 1880 that the frame church building was destroyed. The brick building was demolished in 1905, and the beautiful new structure now standing on same site was erected, and dedicated by Bishop Moore. The Fayette M. E. Church Society is a strong one, drawing its members from a wide area. The present pastor is Rev. Sheridan T. Walker. The Sunday school is particularly active, under superintendents W. A. Britsch and Harry Baldwin.

The United Brethren Church Society dates back to the beginning of settlement in Gorham; in fact, that church was in all probability the first to hold devotional services, other than family, in the township. The Coffin records state: "Soon after the early settlers arrived (in 1835) religious services were instituted, and the first sermon was preached in Freeman Coffin's house, by Mr. Lillibridge, of the United Brethren Church, from the text: 'I Am Not Ashamed of the Gospel of Christ.'" Mr. Coffin, however, as has been previously noted, was not a member of the U. B. Church.

The U. B. Society is active throughout the township; and at present the Rev. C. L. Snyder has two charges, i. e., the Fayette church and the Fountain church. There are strong Sunday schools at each place, Elmer Lester being superintendent of the former and G. M. Ziegler of the latter. Then there is the United Brethren Church at Munson, the present pastor of which is Rev. H. Stimmel. Mr. Ben Allion has, for many years, been one of the most earnest workers for the U. B. Church at Fayette.

There was at one time a local society of the Christian Union denomination, and Verity states that that organization was the next, after the Methodists, to erect a church edifice, in Fayette, building near the schoolhouse building, on Gorham Street, in about 1874.

The Church of Christ, at Fayette, is a strong organization, and owns a beautifully decorated church building. According to Frank Gray (of the firm of Gray and Gray, implement dealers and express agents at Fayette) the church society was organized in about 1880. Mr. Gray has been a member of the church for a longer period than any member now living, but he was not one of the pioneer members. The organizers of the local body were, he says, Mervin Burns, E. P. Ewers, Talcott Bates, and Euclid Hubbard, who were the first elders. At the outset the society met for devotional services in the chapel of the old Normal Building. About a year later they acquired the church building which had been erected in 1874, on Gorham Street, by the Christian Union. The first pastor was Mr. Atwater, and there were probably about fifty charter members. In 1886, states Verity (in 1882, states Mr. Gray), "the denomination of Disciples, or Church of Christ, having become quite strong in numbers.....and feeling the need of a place of worship, erected a fine brick edifice on Cemetery Street." It was dedicated by the Rev. L. L. Carpenter, and was used until 1898, when it was burned to the ground, a very serious loss to the Fayette society, it having cost $10,000, and the insurance only making good the material loss to the extent of $3,300. However, a supreme effort was soon afterwards made to raise the necessary funds for the building of another church, adequate for their purposes, and in that work the strength of the society soon became evident, as did also the broadmindedness of the people of Fayette in general, for people of all denominations subscribed to the building fund, a Presbyterian minister even contributing a substantial amount, so that when the beautiful new church building was ready for dedication, it was possible to announce that the church was even then clear of debt, notwithstanding that its construction had entailed an outlay of more than $14,000. The dedicatory services were under the direction of Minor Lee Bates, then president of Hiram College. The church is spacious, having seating capacity for five hundred people, and it is exquisitely decorated. Since the year of its building the Church of Christ Society at Fayette has grown somewhat, the present membership numbering about 140 people. The Rev. Edwin Coller has been pastor for three years, but has recently resigned.

Cemeteries

The first cemetery in the township was in the Snow Settlement District. Its exact location, in 1848, when it was first used, was on the northeast corner of section 17, town 9 south, range 1 east. Some years later, a cemetery was laid out on the land of the Coffin family. And, probably, in the late '50s or in the '60s, a cemetery was laid out in Fayette itself, and is still the principal cemetery of the township.

Population

The population of Gorham Township, as recorded by the Federal Census-takers, can be given for the five decades from 1870. Prior to that, the records are not available. In 1870 the population was 1055 (including that of Fayette); in 1880, 2029; in 1890, 2144; in 1900, 2218; in 1910, 2174; and in 1920, 2076. The population of Fulton county is slowly increasing, but many of the purely agricultural sections have begun a retrograde movement, attributable, probably, to the modern "drift" of young people to the cities and industrial centers. Fayette of course cannot, properly, be classed as an industrial center, and it has a lesser population today than it had thirty years ago. In 1887, Verity estimated the population of Fayette to be about one thousands persons; in 1920, its population, according to the preliminary announcement of population made by the Bureau of Census, is 936. Statistics can be given for four periods, the population of Fayette in 1890 being, by official figures, 890; in 1900, 886; in 1910, 915; in 1920, 936.

However, if Fayette is not a thriving industrial center, it undoubtedly has charm as a home center; and it has some energetic and capable residents, who, if opportunity presents itself, will not be found wanting, in capability or desire, to send Fayette forward to greater importance.

Many of the leading families of Gorham and Fayette have been given biographical and genealogical review in the second volume of this work.

CHAPTER XX

HISTORY OF FRANKLIN TOWNSHIP

Franklin Township, as now constituted, includes territory which formerly was in German and Gorham Townships of Lucas county, and Mill Creek and Brady Townships of Williams county. It was organized on March 1, 1841, at a commissioners' meeting held at Maumee, Lucas county, and was erected by taking "all of town ten south, range one east, excepting one mile off of the west end of town ten south, range one east" from Gorham Township, and "all of towns eight north, range five east, and one tier of sections off of the north side of town seven north, range five east" from German Township. So constituted, the township remained until February 28, 1850, when, the Legislature of Ohio, in erecting the new county of Fulton, caused Williams county to cede to it a portion of its eastern territory. That part of Williams county territory so ceded, which came within the boundaries of Franklin Township was formerly in the townships of Brady and Mill Creek. Specifically, Franklin Township took from Brady "sections one and two of town seven north, range four east;" and from Mill Creek, "sections thirty-five and thirty-six, town eight north, range four east, and the west tier of fractional sections one mile wide off of town ten south, range one east, and two tiers of sections, to-wit: One and two, and fractional sections eleven and twelve, off of the west side of town ten south, range one west." So that the area of Franklin township became 18,213 acres. A study of the maps and of the general chapters on early jurisdiction and settlement and organization, and also of the chapters regarding contiguous townships will probably supply the seeker with all of the Franklin Township organization and boundary data that it has been deemed unnecessary to embody in this chapter.

The Tiffin River, or Bean Creek, follows a southwesterly course across the township, which in the extreme east and in the southeast corner has a sandy, or gravelly soil, being really a continuation of what were known as the "Oak Openings", *i. e.,* spots which were covered by oak trees of smaller growth and underbrush in the days anterior to, and in those of, the first settlement. The greater part of Franklin however was heavily wooded; in fact, it appears that the township "in its early days was covered with an almost impenetrable forest of giant growth." In these days the black walnut, oak, cherry, and other timbers would have made the landowners rich in the immediate profits that would accrue from the clearing of the land, but in the 'thirties and 'forties, when the greater part of the clearing was accomplished the timber was valueless, save as fertilizer; and the great part of that immense tract of, now valuable, timber was reduced to ashes. Even in the 'fifties, and much later, it hardly paid the settler to convert his standing timber into lumber, except such as could be used locally. The "Wauseon Sentinel" of September 18, 1857, gave some market

quotations, among them: black walnut timber, at $16.00 per 1,000 feet, oak and ash, $8.50, and white wood, $9.00. However, the ash from the burned logs had its agricultural value, helping to enrich the already rich virgin soil of the greater part of the township, and to add the necessary properties to bring fertility to the bare spots.

Regarding these "Oak Openings," James Grisier of Fayette, who traveled the county extensively and continuously, as an insurance agent, fifty years ago, wrote:

"The country that has surprised me most is that along the Angola Road in Franklin Township, the land around Spring Hill, and the 'openings' north of Wauseon, along the Fair Ground road. Forty-five years ago I would not have taken this land as a gift and paid the taxes on it. It was then counted as the Bean Creek Swamp, or the sand land where the crow carried a haversack to keep from starving to death, as it made its trips across that forsaken country. But what a happy change has taken place. These 'openings' are becoming the choice dairy farms of the county, and the despised Bean Creek marsh is recognized as one of the garden spots of the county. I have watched this gradual change and have been surprised that land which was once so worthless could be made the best in the county.

"Some of the best and prettiest homes in the county are found today in these sections which were counted worthless fifty years ago."

Franklin Township, however, was in most parts swampy, or at the best very wet, and until drainage was properly undertaken was difficult ground to cultivate. However, all difficulties eventually were conquered by the indomitable will and the indefatigable labor of the stalwart pioneers.

Early Settlers

The pioneer in Franklin Township was, undoubtedly, Joseph Bates, who was either the first, or the second, white man to take up residence, with intent to settle, in territory now embraced in Fulton county. The year of his coming cannot be authentically determined, but it undoubtedly was before 1835, and while there is reason to believe that he was a comparatively old settler in 1834 (for at that time he was widely known among settlers up and down the Maumee Valley, and had created a reputation as a hunter in Franklin Township and the hinterland), he was generally accredited as having settled in February of 1833. His daughter, as has been noted in the Settlement and Organization Chapter of this work, asserted that he settled in 1832. However, settlement in 1833 would make him the first of legitimate settlers in Fulton county, and for that distinctive place of honor his name has been bracketed with that of Eli Phillips who came to Royalton Township also in that year.

Joseph Bates is entitled to be so bracketed, for although it is true that he settled in what was then Williams county, Eli Phillips settled in what he recognized as part of Michigan territory, going even so far as to take up arms for Michigan when the boundary dispute between Michigan and Ohio got to such a heated state that both administrations mobilized its militia. Verity writes that during the period from first settlement to the creation of Fulton county (from 1833 to 1850) "Joseph Bates is by all acknowledged to be the first settler in the present

area of Franklin Township" adding that "for quite a period of time he alone endured the hardship of early pioneer life, which never will be sufficiently elucidated to the succeeding generations; the severe labor and toil to make for a growing family a home.....living on hominy made from corn pounded in wooden mortars, and such wild meats as might be obtained by the rifle from the woods, caught in the intervals of labor, and often without milk or butter, or any of the articles of luxury."

The Rev. Jacob Binder, one of the pioneer settlers in German Township, stated his pioneer experiences to John W. Roseborough in 1896. He stated that when he and three others returned to Defiance in 1834, from Fort Wayne, Indiana, whither they had journeyed on foot, in an unsuccessful search for suitable land upon which to settle, "they heard of one Joseph Bates, eighteen miles north, a noted hunter, and a man of broad and accurate knowledge of the country." He further explained that "Mr. Bates then lived on what is now (1896) known as the John Shilling farm, in the southwestern part of Franklin Township." To him they went, and Joseph Bates took them six miles east of his own land to what is now known as Lauber's Hill. There they settled, and there, with the aid of Joseph Bates "and his hired man," they raised a log cabin, 20x24 feet. Another version of this pioneer log-raising in German Township states that Joseph "and three men, two of whom were Abner and William Ayers, who were boarders with Bates" helped to see the newcomers comfortably housed. It would therefore seem that in 1834 Joseph Bates had at least three companions, or neighbors, in Franklin Township, although most records assert that he was alone in that township for two years. Verity says that "in the summer and winter of 1830 and 1831, Joseph Bates, with his gun, dogs, bear and wolf traps, came from the East to Hardin County, O., where he hunted and trapped until the coming spring, and during the time lived on muskrats and other game caught in traps, or shot. He sold his furs and skins, the product of his fall and winter labor, and came to then Williams County, and purchased the southeast quarter of section two, town seven north, range four east, now Franklin Township, and had of that winter's labor $130 left. He went back to his home, and in the winter of 1833, started with his family for his new purchase in Williams County, cutting his own road through an unbroken forest from Ottawa to Defiance. When arriving at his new home, he lived for three days in a wagon, until he could erect a log cabin, with simply his own and his family's help. There was no neighbor nearer than twelve miles. He then cleared some land, and raised that year the first grain in Franklin Township, or the western part of Fulton County. A large part of his life here was spent in hunting and trapping, of which he was ever fond."

It appears that Joseph Bates was born in Vermont in 1787, and went into Canada in early manhood, there marrying Harriet Dodge, by whom he had eight children, four being sons, Truman, Thomas, Joseph, and James, who were stated to have all come with their parents, when the family settled in Fulton, or rather Williams, county. Not one of the sons, however, lived long in Ohio. The daughters were: Harriet, who married Theron Landon; Belinda, who married Warren Hancock; Mary, who married Cyrus Barrett; and Elizabeth, who married Hiram Alvord. From Canada, the Bates family came originally

to Richland county, Ohio. In 1845, Mrs. Bates died, and in the following year Joseph Bates married the widow of Joseph Borton.

Joseph Bates "at an early day" was an inn-keeper in Franklin Township, his hotel being known as "J. Bates's Inn". This he sold, in 1861, to William Ayers, soon afterwards moving to Iowa, where he died five years later, aged seventy-nine years.

John Shilling, who purchased the farm owned by Joseph Bates, is supposed to have paid, in 1864, $6,000 for the 160 acres.

Members of the Ayers family were evidently in Franklin Township in 1834, or earlier, but probably neither Abner nor William Ayers in that early day had entered any land, and are therefore not considered, by Verity and other historians, as having been the second and third settlers, respectively, of Franklin Township. Samuel Ayers came into the township in 1835, and took land in section two, town seven north, range four east; and the members of his family came, apparently, in the winter of 1837. They were originally from Perry county, Pennsylvania, although their home, prior to their coming to Franklin Township, was in Richland county, Ohio.

Settlers in Franklin Township in 1835 were: John Shaffer, Adam Poorman, John McLaughlin, Samuel Ayers; in 1837, Samuel B. Darby, Asher Bird, Joseph Ely, Martin Pike, William Young, James Baxter, Jabez Jones, and Albert Chatfield; in 1838, Jacob Shaffer, Sr., Michael Shaffer, Thomas Walters, John Bowser, Leonard Whitmore, David Meriolett, and George Miller; 1839, Peter Minich, Peter Andre, Benjamin Borton, George McFarlane, Asher Ely, John Sparks; in 1840, John Wooster, Chauncey Loveland; in 1841, Nathan Borton, Isaac Borton, John Borton, John Jones, and P. S. Vanortrick; in 1841, or 1842, John Kendall, and Christian Swartzentruver; in 1843, John Dennis and Orrin G. Greely; in possibly 1839, or not later than 1844, Dorsey Barnes, Ozias Barnes, John J. Clark, Jacob Hanshy, Moses Kirtz, Noah Specht; in 1844, John Jacoby, John Fisher, Bethuel Borton, and Peter Hagerman; in 1845, James S. Riddle, Adam Andre, Nathan Oliver, Phillip R. Fisher, John Mason, Josiah Mason, Reuben Mason, J. C. Mason, John Arch, Ezekiel Masters, Jacob Cox, Benjamin Pershing, and Lucius N. Chatfield; in 1846, John McGowen, George Kibler, David Carr, and Daniel Thomas; in 1847, John Gype and William Ely; in 1848, John Hardin, Gideon Long, Joshua Conoway, Obadiah Borton, and Chockley Harlan; in 1849, Richard Rider and Harvey Miller. The majority of these settlers were men of family, so that by 1850 the township had become moderately well peopled; and of those families that are now considered among the old families of Franklin Township, but were of settlement later than 1850, might be mentioned: the Ely, Martzolf, Crumrine, Baum, Shilling, Randall, Kump, Garrison, Burns, Stevens, Snyder, Shipman, Koon, Doriot, Winzler, Dunabarger, Sloan, Russell, Hittle, Shank, Prickett, Roth, Shoffner, Leu, Dickson, Wentz, Brahme, Dennis, Roop, Bixton, Seiler, and Gigax families.

John Shaffer and Adam Poorman came together, entering the Bean Creek Valley in March, 1835. At dusk they approached Bean Creek, but had to camp in the snow until morning, when they "felled two trees across the creek, cut poles and split what they could, and made a bridge across the turbid creek, and moved over with their goods and families" their land being on the opposite side. They encamped

for that night on a rising piece of land, but the next morning found that they were surrounded by water, as deep as five feet in places, the melting snow and heavy rain combining to make a flood. Eventually, however, the water subsided, and they were able to put up log cabins. John Shaffer was of hospitable nature, and if he did not keep a hotel, his home received many a traveler. In 1851, he sold his farm to Lyman Morrison, and eventually moved into Michigan. The Shaffer farm in Franklin Township was in section thirty-two, town eight north, range five east; and that of Adam Poorman on section five, town seven north, range five east.

Adam Poorman did not stay many years in Franklin Township. In 1846, he moved into Dover Township, selling his Franklin Township farm to Daniel Thomas. His daughter Alice Ann, who became the wife of Royal C. Stevens, and eventually died in Tedrow, May 2, 1910, is believed to have been the first white child born in Franklin Township. She was born on September 28, 1836.

The McLaughlin family was represented in Franklin Township in 1835, when John McLaughlin, presumably brother of Daniel, came with Samuel Ayers into the township from Richland county, Ohio. They passed over the same route as Shaffer and Poorman, finding the bridge over Bean Creek, which they crossed with difficulty, eventually locating land and then returning to their Richland county homes. On May 11, 1836, Joseph McLaughlin, who was then but a boy of fifteen years, came with his mother, Isabelle (Drum) widow of Daniel McLaughlin, from Richland county, and settled on section 1, town 7 north, range 4 east, Ohio survey, that being the same section upon which was the tract John McLaughlin had entered. John McLaughlin came at the same time, or earlier. Elizabeth McLaughlin, sister of John, married Adna Reynolds. She, herself, was evidently imbued with the spirit of the pioneer, for it has been stated that upon the day of her wedding, she "did a washing in the morning, for the family; shelled that morning also one-half bushel of corn, and that afternoon carried it on her shoulder, through the woods, to Bird's mill, located on Mill Creek, north, got it ground, again reshouldered and carried it home; baked the wedding cake: and was married the same evening. She had carried the half bushel for five miles, over a difficult road, but evidently needed the flour for the wedding cake, and with the typical pioneer spirit set resolutely about accomplishing the task, with a light heart. Joseph McLaughlin became the head of a very large family. He married Mary Beaty in 1845, and they reared ten of their eleven children.

Samuel Ayers settled on section 2, town 7 north, range 4 east. It is not known whether he was related to the family of same name that settled in Dover Township.

Asher Bird, who came in 1837, and settled on section 8, town 10 south, range 1 east, was a man of enterprise, and his coming materially improved the condition of the settlers in the neighboring country, enabling them to get their corn and other grain ground without the necessity of having to give as much time in journeying to and from the mill as the flour they returned with was worth. That was the disheartening experience of the earliest settlers, who would take five or six days to make the journey to and from the nearest mill. Asher Bird's grist mill was the first to be built in that part of Fulton county.

His water mill was located on Mill Creek, and early records of German Township show that settlers in that township also patronized Bird's mill. He was not, however, very successful in the enterprise, states one chronicler.

The Ely family has been prominent in Franklin Township. Joseph Ely came in 1837, and George Ely in 1835, or 1837, with his wife, Elizabeth (Folck) Ely, and their child, La Fayette G. Ely, who was then an infant, having been born in 1834; and Asher Ely, father of George, came in 1839. Asher was a veteran of the War of 1812, and his son, George, became a worthy pioneer of Franklin, while the infant, La Fayette G., was destined to become quite a prominent man in Fulton county affairs, thrice auditor of the county, and twice its representative in the State Legislature, besides which he held many responsible township offices, and was justice of the peace for many years. David Ely, in 1838, settled on section 2, town 7 north, range 5 east.

The Shaffer family is among the old families of Fulton county, and of prominence in more than one township. One pioneer branch settled in Pike Township, and Franklin Township had many representatives. Jacob Shaffer, Sr., settled on section 12, town 10 south, range 1 east, and Michael on section 35, town 8 north, range 5 east. Another branch settled in Clinton Township, and Dover, and included Alfred F. Shaffer, who became sheriff of Fulton county, and later president of the Board of State Fair Managers, and president of the County Fair. Another was Dr. Henry Shaffer, who was born in Franklin Township March 26, 1851, and practiced the greater part of his professional life in Dover Township, dying at his home in Tedrow in 1914.

Joseph Ely, Martin Pike, William Young, James Baxter, Jabez Jones, and Albert Chatfield settled along the creek, the last-named on the east bank, and the others on the west.

John Bowser, a settler of early 1838, came from Fairfield county, Ohio. He was of German birth, and of characteristically simple and religious life. He settled on section 34, town 8 north, range 5 east, and was a comparatively old man when he came, having six sons, some of whom were full-grown. The family had an extensive acreage in Franklin, the father having purchased 120 acres for each son, the whole tract apparently adjoining. They seem to have combined their efforts, and to have centered their efforts upon the clearing of the homestead farm, before beginning the development of their respective tracts. John Bowser was a local preacher of the United Brethren denomination, and was quite active and zealous in religious work among the early settlers, and the early church societies in Fulton county. His youngest son, Noah, was the father of Noah W. Bowser, who died in Wauseon in 1910. The last-named inherited the homestead farm, and cultivated it for some years, later buying eighty acres in section five, of Franklin Township. He was prominent in local affairs, as township trustee and treasurer.

The Rev. John Bowser was much esteemed, and it is supposed that his coming influenced others of his faith to come also from Fairfield county. At all events, within a few years quite a strong society of United Brethren had settled in Franklin Township, among them relatives and old neighbors of John Bowser, including Dorsey Barnes, his son-in-law; Ozias Barnes, John J. Clark, Jacob Hanshy, Moses Kirtz, Noah Specht. Mr. Bowser, however, died in 1844, although the name

continued to come into early church annals, through the work of his son, Aaron, who became an able preacher, serving as presiding elder in the district for several terms.

Samuel B. Darby, who settled in Franklin Township in 1837, is referred to in many connections in this work. He was one of the most capable and active of the pioneer administrators of Franklin, and comes into county record. Verity says that he was for "many years the foremost leader in affairs of the county." He was one of the pioneer school teachers—the first of male sex—in Franklin; conducted what was probably the first store in the township; and several other pioneer distinctions are his, as has been noted elsewhere. He died in Franklin Township in 1881, aged seventy-seven years. His widow, Sepharna Guilford, however, lived to be nearly one hundred years old. She was in her ninety-ninth year when she died, in Wauseon, in 1909. She was a quiet, unassuming, and venerable old lady, devoted to her home and home interests, and was known affectionately to a wide circle of friends as "Grandma" Darby. She and her husband were the parents of nine children, and from February 22, 1838, her home was upon the farm they owned on the bank of Bean Creek. From 1884, until her death, she lived in Wauseon, where some of her descendants still live. She was a woman of strong steadfast Christian faith, and was a member of the Baptist Church for seventy-two years, was a charter member of the Mill Creek Baptist Church, and later became a member of the Wauseon Church, of that denomination. F. L. S. Darby, of Wauseon, Dr. A. B. Darby, of Waterloo, Indiana, are her sons.

Peter, Anthony and John Minich, sons of Henry Minich, of Luzerne county, Pennsylvania, were early settlers in Fulton county. Peter came into Franklin Township, with his wife Catherine, in 1839, taking land in section 1 of town 7 north, range 5 east. He became a successful farmer, and died in 1881. John Minich first came in 1844, and 1854 returned and purchased a farm of eighty acres in Franklin, for which he then had to pay $3.100.

Peter Andre came in 1839, settling on section 2 of town 7 north, range 5 east, but he only stayed a few years. His brother, Adam, settled in Franklin Township in 1845, paying $450 for eighty acres. He lived in the township for the remainder of his life, taking good part in township affairs, having at some time been elected to almost all of the township offices. He was justice of the peace for some years also.

The Borton family first settled in German Township. Nathan Borton died in New Jersey in 1831, leaving a widow and nine children. Nathan W., with his mother and four of the children, settled in German Township, Fulton county, Ohio, five years later. Nathan W. Borton was the first treasurer of German Township; Adam Borton was one of the first overseers; and Joseph Borton was one of the first constables of German Township; and, it has been stated, that Nathan was the first justice of the peace of German Township. He married in 1839 Mary T. Ayers, and in 1841, or 1845 (probably the latter, for he was a trustee of German Township as late as 1843) he bought a farm of 100 acres in Franklin Township, paying $300 therefor; and upon that homestead he lived for the remainder of his life. The Borton family were Quakers, and Nathan seems to have been gifted with good oratorical powers. Benjamin Borton is recorded as of Franklin Township

residence in 1839, John Borton in 1841; Isaac Borton at about that time, Asa Borton in 1848.

Many of the pioneers of Franklin Township come, and rightly, into the early records of German Township; some into those of Gorham; it would therefore be advisable for interested readers to read those chapters of this work also, in undertaking research regarding early settlers in Franklin.

James S. Riddle, who settled in Franklin in 1845, upon a tract of eighty acres, for which he paid $2.50 an acre, was a man of strong purpose and succeeded well in life. It is stated that when he first came into the township, he had a family of five children, and only a York shilling in his pocket, his other wealth being eighty acres of wild land, for which it is possible he had not at that time paid the whole of the purchase price. Yet, he lived to be comparatively well circumstanced, financially, and to enjoy much esteem as an able public worker and servant. He was prominent in the early administrative affairs of Fulton county; was justice of the peace for many years, and closely identified with the direction of the County Infirmary for many years. He compiled many statistics of value regarding the early administration of Fulton county, and it is to such men as he that thanks should be given for making it possible to preserve local history for posterity with a reasonable assurance of accuracy.

Mention should be made of one worthy Franklin Township family —a family of noteworthy Civil War record. William W. and Armenia (Morrison) Stevens came into Franklin Township, from Richland county, Ohio, in 1850. They had six sons and one daughter; and when the test came in the '60's, every one of the six sons went into the Union Army. The sons were Royal C., Charles L., Daniel L., Sylvanius M., William H., and John S. Three enlisted in the Sixty-Seventh Ohio, and three in the Forty-Fourth Illinois. Royal C., Charles L. and William H. were wounded, the last-named losing an arm; and Daniel L. gave his life to the nation, dying in service in 1863. Charles L. rose to the grade of captain, and later, in civil life, proved himself to be an efficient public servant, holding by election many responsible offices. He died in 1912. Royal C., who was discharged because of wounds, in June, 1865, also served later as township trustee, and became a useful resident in Franklin. William H. ("Billy") Stevens comes into county record, having for three terms been county recorder. He died in 1901. Sylvanius M. reached the age of eighty years, his death not occurring until December 27, 1919. He was a prisoner-of-war in Andersonville for ten months, and after being released and discharged, settled in Dover Township, where he held township office for many years. He was treasurer for fourteen years. Truly William H. and Armenia Stevens had good cause to be proud of their sons.

Levi W. Brown, who was born in Franklin Township in 1841, eventually became probate judge of Fulton county, and was twice re-elected and afterwards appointed United States Consul, at Glasgow, Scotland, by President Benjamin Harrison. Samuel Ayers became treasurer. Ezekial Masters, who settled in 1845, became a county commissioner, serving for twelve years; he was also state representative for two terms. Sylvester Baum has also been commissioner.

Official township records are not available, and nothing is on record as to the pioneer elections of Franklin. The township is essentially an

agricultural one, well-drained, and rich, with excellent roads, and fine farms. No such conditions as were stated to have existed in the '60's and '70's could now be imagined by a person passing through Franklin Township. Regarding the old times, James Grisier, before quoted, wrote:

"My experience in travelling over the country in those days of long ago sound to the present generation like fairy tales. I did all my travelling then on horseback, and many and many a time has my horse become exhausted before night, from wading through the mud, and I was compelled to leave him and make the rest of the journey on foot through the woods. No horse could travel twenty miles a day over those roads and keep it up day after day. There were few ditches then, and ofttimes I have gone for miles over bluff and through swale during the spring. On many occasions have I left my horse at some farmer's barn, and walked ten or twelve miles that I might enjoy Sunday at home with my family, my horse being unable to make the journey. You talk about bad roads these days, but you do not know what they are."

There are no incorporated, or even moderate-sized communities within the borders of Franklin Township. The nearest it has been to owning a city was when, in the very early days, an unscrupulous speculator, named Heffenstine, entered some land on Bean Creek, at the Fulton line, platted it, and gave it the name of the City of New Amsterdam, marking steamboat landing, public square, public park, and other fictitious but attractive civic improvements. He went to Cincinnati, representing New Amsterdam to be "almost the garden of the world," and he apparently made some money by his schemings in real estate. Not one of the persons he sold lots to, however, ever settled in the township, and the tax title to the whole city eventually passed to Samuel B. Darby, the land being sold for the taxes due upon it. Later, Darby offered to sell the property for the tax money he had paid, the land was then under from one to ten feet of water.

However, those days passed, and owners of Franklin Township land in these days are fortunate in possessing it.

Schools

There was a private school in Franklin Township in 1836. It was taught by Samantha Crandall, in the log cabin of Joseph Bates, on section 2, and it was with difficulty that she got to and from school, having to cross Bean Creek on a felled log that straddled it. In addition, she "had to wade through swales and water." Her mother conducted the school in the next year, Jane Brundridge succeeding her.

At about that time a log schoolhouse was erected by Samuel B. Darby, on the east bank of Bean Creek, near Darby's land. He was the first teacher, conducting the school for the winter term of 1839-40, when twelve pupils were enrolled. In 1842, a frame house displaced the log cabin.

Another school district, known as the Ascher Ely District, was organized in 1845, a log cabin having been raised for the purpose. Augustus Porter was the first teacher. As the population increased, other school districts were organized; in 1888 there were seven school

districts under the administration of the Franklin Township School Board, and one fractional district serving pupils of German and Franklin Townships.

One of the most prominent and capable of the pioneer teachers of Franklin Township was Jonathan Long; he will be remembered, respectfully, by those people in Fulton County, who in their young days were guided into an intelligent understanding of academic subjects by him.

There has not been much change in the schools of Franklin Township during the last twenty-five years, excepting in the expansion of curricula, and the extension of the school term, which now is thirty-two weeks yearly. There are still only seven school districts, although there are eight schoolhouses, one lying idle. The school property is valued at $8,850; and during 1919, they enrolled one hundred and ninety scholars. The present Board of Education of Franklin Township is constituted as follows: Jay J. Funk, president; Geo. K. Russell, clerk; Harry Stowell, Chas. F. Shaffner, George M. Ziegler, and W. G. Russell, directors.

Churches

The United Brethren denomination was, probably, the first to organize a strong church society in Franklin Township, although the death of John Bowser in 1844, deprived them of one of their most capable workers and preachers.

The first church building erected in the township seems to have been that built for the Methodist Episcopal Society. It was erected in 1849, near Master's Corners. Prior to that Methodists, and other denominations used the schoolhouse in the Ascher Ely District for devotional purposes.

Many churches were built near Master's Corners, the Presbyterians building a church there in 1852, that being the second Presbyterian Church erected in Fulton County, the first having been built in Etna, Pike Township, and in 1852, or 1853, the Baptists also built near the Corners, where the church remained for some years, eventually however being removed to section 2, town 10 south, range 1 east.

The Disciples, or the Church of the Disciples of Christ, had a strong organization in the southwestern part of Franklin, and in 1861 built a church on section 2, town 7 north, range 4 east, the Rev. L. L. Carpenter, who at that time was county treasurer and the most ardent and effective worker for the Disciples Church in Fulton County, is stated to have been the man under whose labors the church was organized, in Franklin. It was dedicated on February 20, 1862. For further information, see Chapter XXV, Church History.

The Lutherans early had a church society in the township, and in course of time adapted a schoolhouse, on section 34, town 8 north, range 5 east, for the purposes of a church; and therein for many years services by that sect were regularly held.

Industries

John Borton, in 1841, distilled oils from peppermint, spearmint, sassafras, and butterweed, and continued in that business for many decades. Asher Ely erected a similar still in 1844. Nathan Borton conducted a similar business for many years from 1846; and in about the same year John Mason built a still on section 1, running it for twenty years.

George Kibbler was the first, and only, man to erect a whisky still in Franklin Township; indeed, in Fulton County. He ran it in connection with a grist-mill, from 1852 to 1864, when he sold the whole business to a man named Gigax. The place was abandoned a couple of years later, after damage done by water when the dam broke. The plant was on Mill Creek.

Another grist mill, on Mill Creek, was that of Asher Bird. It was located on section 8, town 10 south, range 1 east, and was the first to be erected in that part of Fulton County. Bird ran the mill from 1837, until he died in 1842. It was continued in operation by others until 1849 or 1850. Verity says "it was without doubt the first regular grist mill in Fulton County." Albert S. Fleet, in his history of German Township, wrote the following regarding milling conditions in the county in the first decade of settlement: "Mills were far away, with the exception of Mr. Bird's, in the northwest corner of German, and was taken with the territory from German to make Franklin; but the mill was the same, and never have we had a better one for good work than when Mr. Bird was miller himself. But the water failed in dry weather. Mr. Bird built his mill sometime before the organization of the township."

The first cider mill was built by Chockley Harlan, in 1856. Some years later, John Gype and his brother erected a more modern press, which continued in operation for very many years.

In 1850, the first cane mill to be erected in the township was put on section 12, on P. R. Fisher's farm, by Obadiah Borton, who was responsible for the making of the first sorghum syrup manufactured in Franklin, possibly in Fulton county. In 1858, John Mason built a mill for grinding cane, and ran it for fifteen years. Another mill, a large one, was built in 1865 by Joshua Conoway, who ran it for six or seven years.

The first saw-mill was probably that erected by Albert Chatfield, on the banks of Bean Creek, in 1837, or 1838. A grist-mill was built near it in later years, but was only worked for a few years, fire then destroying the plant. The first steam sawmill was erected in 1856, by John Borton, near the south side of section 35, town 7 north, range 4 east, of the Ohio survey. Later, lath and shingle mills were added to the plant, but both were destroyed in 1879, by fire. The brothers Gype entered the saw-milling business later, having a mill in the eastern part of the township. The mill was built "at an early date" by Michael Shaffer.

Jacob Shadle was one of the enterprising men of the township, and at one time had a large brick and tile yard, "near Angola and Toledo Road, west of the creek." There were two other brick manufacturing plants in the township, but that industry has not been

followed in Franklin as extensively as has been the case in other parts of Fulton County.

The first shoemaker in Franklin was Benjamin Persing; the next, John Hardin; the next, Joshua Conoway, who later moved into Dover Township. He was a man of many trades, millwright, wheelwright, carpenter, plasterer, painter, mason, blacksmith, wagonmaker, shoemaker, tailor, and, last but not least, was a good farmer.

The first storekeeper, probably, was a man named Hastings, who, in 1838, opened a store just west of Bean Creek, on the Maumee and Angola Road, and west of Samuel B. Darby's home, upon the south side of section 32, town 8 north, range 5 east. The store was abandoned a few years later. Leonard Whitmore kept a store for five or six years, from 1838, on section 10, town 10 south, range 1 east; and Samuel B. Darby did some trading, either at his home, or in the store originally opened by Hastings, and tradition has it that the early settlers, in the first thaws and heavy rains of Spring, would have to approach the store in boats. Reuben Mason opened a store at his residence in 1850. It was he who laid out the villiage of Trenton, which developed no further than to be the place of the store conducted by himself for nearly ten years, from 1852. He was potsmaster of the Blanc office for eleven years; in fact, until that office was abandoned. The first postmaster was Jabez Jones, the office being located in latter's home, in Franklin Township, in 1850. Of the people of Franklin Township, however, Samuel B. Darby was the first to hold the office of postmaster, and that office was stated to have been the first to be established in the county, the mail route being from Defiance to Michigan. The Blanc postoffice of later date was served by the mounted mail carrier, who travelled the greater part of the route from Toledo to Angola. The first mail carrier was John S. Butler, but at the time Jabez Jones had the Blanc office, the mailman was probably Benjamin Skeels, of York. The establishment of the rural free delivery routes rendered most of the rural postoffices unnecessary.

Ira Smith was the pioneer physician of Franklin Township, but in length of residence and extent of practice, Dr. John Kendall deserves place as the pioneer medical man of Franklin Township. He came from Gorham Township in 1839, or 1841, settling on section 35, town 8 north, range 5 east, and practiced for practically twenty years. His son, Dr. Amos, also practiced in Franklin Township, for some years in the late forties, then, however, returning to Gorham, in which township Dr. Amos Kendall practiced for the remainder of his life. Dr. Ira Smith was only in Franklin for about three years.

A child born to Mrs. Irene Holt, a sister of Isaac and John Reynolds, of Franklin, was, it has been asserted, the first to be born in Franklin Township, or in German Township as it then was. But this child died soon after birth. Also, there is doubt whether the Reynolds family came into German Township before 1837. Whereas, it has been authenticated that Alice Ann Poorman, who is also claimed to have been the first white child born in the township, was born on September 28, 1836. She married Royal Stevens and lived in the county for almost seventy-four years.

Ramsom Reynolds and Perlona (or Pollonia) Crandall were married by Nathan Borton, a justice of the peace, on July 28, 1838, which

marriage is claimed to have been the first solemnized in Franklin Township. The second was that of Elizabeth McLaughlin, beforementioned, to Adna Reynolds.

Population

The Census statistics for Franklin Township since 1870 are available. Then the population was one short of one thousand persons; in 1880, it had increased to 1,201; in 1890, there were 1,119; in 1900, 1,138; in 1910, only 964; and in the current year, 1920, the "preliminary annoucement of population" published by the Bureau of the Census before the final recount had been made, gave the count as 926, thus showing that, in point of population, Franklin Township has been falling back during the last forty years. In general prosperity, however, it has substantially advanced.

CHAPTER XXI

HISTORY OF FULTON TOWNSHIP

A portion of the territory now within the bounds of Fulton Township was within the strip of land regarding which Michigan and Ohio were at loggerheads for many years, and almost at war in 1835. It has been extensively written of in other chapters, therefore the reader is probably well conversant with the fact that north of what is called the Fulton Line, meaning the line surveyed by a man named Fulton, the territory now included in Fulton County was, prior to 1835, considered by the Territory of Michigan to be within its jurisdiction and boundaries. At that time, Michigan asserted its authority over the territory and the settlers seem to have recognized it, and to have done their legal business in Adrian, Lenawee County. Also, possibly, they recognized Michigan's right to levy taxes, although with dispute between the state authorities in such a pregnant state in the first years of settlement, it is more than probable that few settlers actually paid taxes to either Michigan or Ohio until after 1835, or 1836, when the situation was clearer, as to administrative title.

Nominally, the whole of the territory now included in Fulton Township was, in 1836 included in the bounds of York Township, soon, however, to be transferred to the jurisdiction of Swan Creek Township, and part of it, in 1837, re-transferred to Amboy Township. At the time of the settlement of the Michigan-Ohio dispute, there were, it has been estimated, about twenty-five families resident within that part of the disputed strip now included within the boundaries of Fulton Township, and some of them had unpleasant experiences during the inter-state strife.

Fulton Township came into existence on March 1, 1841, when the Commissioners of Lucas County met at Maumee City, and formed the township by taking "from Amboy Township fractional township number 10 south, range 4 east, and from Swan Creek Township fractional township 8 north, range 8 east, and the north tier of sections from township 7 north, range 8 east." A further change came on June 2, 1846, when the Commissioners of Lucas County met at Maumee, and "upon the petition of many residents of Fulton Township..... ordered that the south tier of sections in township 9 south, range 4 east, be taken from Amboy Township, and attached to Fulton Township." So, its boundaries have remained to the present. Fulton was the tenth township of Fulton County to be organized, although its settlement began within a year or two of the opening of settlement in the first of the townships to which the pioneer came.

It was not a locality in which settlers could expect to find comfort without unusual effort: "it was said that the land was too low, or the water to high, and there was no way for drainage." The level land was heavily timbered, and required much labor to fit a small piece

for cultivation, stated the same writer, adding that "when the crops commenced to appear, wild animals and birds were early to gather their share." Again, the roads through the woods "seemed to have no bottom, and long pieces had to be covered with logs, rails and brush, in order to make them passable." The streams had of course to be forded, and "they went to mill, to church, and to visit each other, with ox teams and lumber wagons, and some of them of the rudest kind." Many wild animals were in the forest, and probably a gun was oftener than not, carried by the pioneer.

The soil, as one would expect in that swampy district, is in most parts of the township heavy clay, or with a clay subsoil very near the surface. Under-drainage, however, has brought very satisfactory results, and the yield from Fulton Township land compares satisfactorily with that from agricultural land of other townships in Fulton County. Swanton lies partly in Fulton Township, and Ai, which once was of greater importance than now, is also in Fulton Township.

Early Settlers

The place of honor, as the pioneer settler of Fulton Township must be given to John W. Harter, who, with his wife and three children, came into the forest in May, 1834, and settled on the west half of the northeast quarter of section 35, town 8 north, range 8 east. They came from Huron County, Ohio, travelling in a canvas-covered wagon, drawn by oxen. He reached to within two miles of his land in the Six Mile Woods by what was termed a road, but from that point had to clear the standing timber from his path before he could proceed. Four weeks elapsed before he could build a log cabin, and during that time his family lived, as well as they could, in their covered wagon, having as near neighbor a tribe of Indians, an Indian villiage, or camp, being at that time on the west bank of Swan Creek. The Harters were probably not disturbed, or perturbed, by the proximity of the red men, who, from most accounts, were peaceably inclined; yet, with the knowledge that they were comparatively defenseless, being far from neighbors, and that the Indians occasionally became uncontrollable, and in that state of frenzy brought torture and death to white people, John W. Harter and his brave wife must have had moments of uneasiness. Still, they would not have been pioneers if they were not possessed of stout hearts, inured to peril, and strong enough to endure all the hardships encountered. The pioneer settlers, as a rule, manifested an intrepidity as notworthy as that of great soldiers of history. They literally carried their lives in their hands, went alone into hostile territory, for all Indian territory was hostile, and "burned their bridges behind them." Few of their descendants realize the extent of the dangers that were before their forbears in carrying white civilization across this continent. The Indian opposition was an ever-present danger; the wild beasts, and poisonous reptiles, of the wilderness caused them to be ever alert; and the great adventure in risking life, without provender, in the Great Unknown, the wilderness, was one that must have taxed the stoutest heart. This generation is not so tested, fortunately. The brunt of the struggle was borne by their resolute pioneer ancestors.

The Harters were not destined long to be the only white inhabitants of Fulton Township; many other settlers came in the same year; and it is difficult to compile a complete list of all who came during the first decade of settlement. As far as records available go, the settling families were: in 1834, that of J. J. Teachworth, Henry Lake, Alexander Boyd, Isaac Day, John Viers, Charles Welch, Africa Spaulding, Daniel Q. Berry, John Shaw, George Black, Judge Thatcher, Peter Broadsword, Gideon W. Raymond; in 1835, Ezra and Abraham Willcox, Alexander Vaughn, Joseph Dennis, Jacob Hamp, Jacob Haynes and his father, John Nobbs, William H. Harris, John Day, Hiram Clark, Cyrus Clark, Shubal Nixon, Joseph Babcock, William Stair; in 1836, Ami Richards, David Springer, Robert Pennel, Robert Watkins, George W. Thompson; in 1837, Samuel Durgin, Charles V. Merrill; in 1838, Samuel Dowling, Jonathan Wood, Levi Merrill, Clement Canfield, Hartman Canfield, Luther Dodge; Isaac Fauble came in 1842; Martin and Emery Wilson in 1843; Josiah W. Bartlett, in the same year; Elijah Herrick in 1845; Horatio Witt in 1844; and James and John Fenton, in 1847. Also, it is known that the following were residents in the territory while it was still part of Swan Creek Township: Charles Gunn, J. Thresher, S. Fox, H. Chamberlin, Flomen Chamberlin, Samuel Cable and Eli J. Reed.

John J. Teachworth and his family came in the fall of 1834, as did Henry Lake and his family, wife and five children.

Alexander Boyd, a settler of '34, died, in 1837, and his was the first body interred in the Ai Cemetery. He was survived by widow and three children.

Charles Welch was the head of a large family, one well fitted for such pioneer work as was before them. His many sons cleared a large acreage, and Charles Welch in old age was well-circumstanced, because of his and their labor. He eventually moved into Amboy Township, where he died in 1878.

Daniel Q. Berry was one of the physically strong men of early Fulton. He came with his wife and their seven sons in 1834, the family settling in town 10 south, range 4 east, where he died in 1844, and his widow in 1860. His sons were also men of abnormal strength. They constructed a horse mill for Mr. Harter in 1835, Thomas C., Nicholas Q. and William Berry doing the greater part of the work, and it was said that Nicholas and William sawed all the lumber for the mill with a whip-saw, rolling a log on to a skidway, high enough for one man to stand under the log to manage the lower end of the saw. The other man stood on the top of the log, to guide the upper end of the saw. It "required great muscular power to run this kind of a saw-mill," but the Berry boys were expert sawyers. Soon afterwards Nicholas Q. Berry built a saw-mill for himself, and possibly his brothers, on Swan Creek, which ran through the Berry tract. It was the first saw-mill erected in Fulton Township.

The Rev. John Shaw settled on the eastern half of the northeast quarter of section 10, town 10 south, range 4 east, in 1834, but within a year left the neighborhood.

George Black came in 1834, and had part in the building of the pioneer schoolhouse in the Hiram Clark District, being one of the

original directors. He moved away ten years later, in 1844, and later in life lived in Whitehouse, Lucas County.

Judge Thatcher, who came in 1834, lived in the township for more than thirty years, and took part in township affairs, as trustee, and in other capacities. He removed to Conencticut in 1866, shortly before he died.

Peter Broadsword was a settler of '34, entering land on section 10, town 10 south, range 4 east. He was subjected to singular treatment by the Ohio authorities during the time of heated contention with Michigan, regarding the boundary. It appears that "Peter Broadsword went from this disputed territory to Waterville, south on the Maumee River, to mill, and on his return was taken prisoner-of-war, near old Swanton, on the Ohio side, and was detained with his grist of corn meal until his captors became convinced that he was not in any manner aiding the 'Wolverines;' and upon fair promises made by Peter, he was permitted to return to his family with the provisions, for which they had become very much in want."

Isaac Day came alone, in 1834, having lost by death his wife and infant son, in Utica, New York State. He settled on section fifteen of Swan Creek Township, and built a log cabin. In the following year, he was joined by his only child, a daughter, whom he had left with the Nobbs family, when leaving New York State in the previous year. John Day, with wife and four children, three of whom were sons, also came in 1835, accompanying John Nobbs and family. They all settled upon section 33, town 9 south, range 4 east, Isaac Day having decided to abandon his first holding and cabin. They set to work, as one family, and built a log cabin for John Day and his family, after which one was built for the Nobbs family, Isaac Day and his daughter moving into that house with them on January 25, 1836. John Day died in 1837, and Isaac became, morally, the head of the family; and with his assistance, or moral support, the widow, with her three young boys, was able to tackle and to conquer the poverty in which they were thus placed, and eventually to develop a property which yielded them sufficient sustenance. Isaac Day had one unpleasant experience in 1835, while returning to his farm, or tract of wild land which it then was, from the Land Office, whither he had gone probably to enter the land in section thirty-three, upon which they afterwards settled. It appears that he followed "the road or trail, as best he could by the aid of blazed trees" but that darkness overtook him when he had reached a desolate spot near Delta, in York Township. The report states that "darkness overtook him in the old windfall south of that place," the effects of the tornado experienced by William King and his family in June, 1834, when the storm left a track "two miles wide and thirty miles long," through the dense forest. Isaac Day might well have had difficulty in passing over this maize of torn and distorted fallen timber, and to have been delayed in consequence. The narrative goes on to state that "the howling of the wolves soon admonished him to seek a place of safety. This he did by climbing the nearest tree, where, standing with one foot at a time on a limb of a tree, all that night, with the howling of the disappointed wolves, he waited patiently for daylight." He reached his cabin in safety next day.

John and Jane (Mason) Nobbs, who were both born, and in fact married, in England, lived in Fulton Township for the remainder of their lives. They were the parents of nine children, and they passed through much privation during the first year in Fulton Township. Their son William died a month or so before their log cabin was ready, and at that time they either lived in their wagon (the month was November), or in the small cabin erected by Isaac Day in Swan Creek; and they had moved into their new cabin only a few months before another child was born to them, their son, James H., who was born on June 2, 1836, and eventually became one of the successful and progressive farmers of the township, active in school and township administrations. John Nobbs reached the age of seventy-four years, and then was killed in a runaway accident. His wife reached the age of seventy-nine years.

James Nobbs, who was one of the first children if not actually the first white child, born in Fulton Township, lived a long and useful life, and in 1907, narrated some of his reminiscences to Mr. Reighard, editor of the "Fulton County Tribune." The article stated that:

"He well remembers the time when the Indians roamed through the forests of the county, when deer and wild turkey were plentiful, and when it was not an uncommon occurrence to run across a big bear, or a wild cat, in going from one settlement to another.

"In his boyhood days, the public highways were only trails blazed through the woods along the ridges. There were no public improvements in those days, said Mr. Nobbs, for it was all that those early settlers could do to provide for the necessities of life, let alone looking after public improvements. With the exception of the little settlement around Ai, our nearest neighbors were several miles away. Delta was then a little settlement, where J. T. Gates kept a small store. The most of the business in those times was transacted at Maumee. I remember well seeing a settler starting for Maumee with his yoke of oxen, and with two or three neighbors' grist piled on his wagon. Sometimes, two or three settlers would go together, and take along enough grist for each family in the settlement. It required three or four days to make the journey.....

"During the '40s, Ai was an important trade center of the county. The Toledo and Angola Road was the main route of travel east and west then, as there was not a railroad in the county. It was located about a day's journey out of Toledo, and many a weary traveler was glad to find a welcome, and a place to stay all night, at the tavern at Ai. Many of the smaller Indian traders would come there to secure their stock of goods. With the building of the Lake Shore Railroad, the business at Ai began to decline."

Gideon W. Raymond, one of the pioneer school teachers of Fulton and Swan Creek Townships, came in 1834, and settled on section 32, town 8 north, range 8 east. It has been stated that he "taught school in the first schoolhouse in the Clark District in 1837." That was not possible for the official record for that pioneer school district shows that the log schoolhouse was not raised until November 29, 1838, and there is no record of the appointment of any teacher, or of the holding of school during 1838, in that schoolhouse. The first reference to a teacher, and to a session of school, was

on June 8, 1839, when "the householders of School District No. 3, Swan Creek" met, under the chairmanship of Cyrus Clark, and voted: "that we have three months school, to commence during the month of August next, to be taught by a female." It is possible that there was a winter term of school in 1838, and that Gideon W. Raymond was the teacher, but from another record it seems more than probable that that schoolhouse, although built in November of 1838, was allowed to remain idle until the Autumn of next year. One record states that "in November 1837 (it must have been 1838), the pioneers built a log schoolhouse in the district. Isaac Day, wishing his daughter to learn to write, put in a writing desk for her use. Gideon W. Raymond taught the district school that winter." Possibly, Gideon Raymond had Isaac Day's daughter as his sole pupil that winter. Gideon Raymond was appointed a director of that school district in 1840, other directors being John Nobbs and George Black. Raymond was also appointed clerk and treasurer of that district, and "qualified" by Nathaniel Leggett, who then was clerk of Swan Creek Township. Raymond on December 2, 1840, was also "employed to teach school three months.....for forty-five dollars"; and in the following March, he agreed to accept forty-four dollars for the three months of teaching. A "female" succeeded him, agreeing to teach for a remuneration of $1.50 a week. But Raymond for several years thereafter taught in the larger Ai school, and for many years was prominent in school affairs. For some years he was also a justice of the peace.

John Viers settled with his family on section 5, town 7 north, range 8 east (Ohio survey), in 1834, and lived for more than forty years in the township. He was one of the pioneer school directors, being "appointed, and authorized, and required to perform the several duties of school director" by William Meeker, town clerk, in 1839; and he was also appointed clerk and treasurer of the same district in that year. He raised a family of thirteen children, nine of whom were boys. Five of these saw military service during the Civil war, and were of good civil record afterwards.

Africa Spaulding, also of settlement in 1834, lived in Fulton Township for almost a half-century. He died in 1881, having during his residence developed a good property in section 2, town 7 north, range 8 east.

The brothers Ezra and Abraham Willcox came into Fulton in 1835, from Connecticut. Ezra was a typical "Connecticut Yankee"; he peddled clocks of Connecticut make throughout the township and county. Abraham settled in township 10 south, range 4 east (Michigan survey), where he lived until his death, in 1852.

The Dennis family has held connection with Fulton Township since the beginning, Joseph Dennis having settled on section 1, town 10 south, range 4 east, in 1835. Four generations of the family have had residence in Fulton Township, Joseph and Mary (King) Dennis becoming the parents of nine children, including six sons, some of whom remained in Fulton. Joseph Dennis died in Amboy, in 1885. His son Isaac purchased a property in Fulton Township, adjoining that of his father, and had made it a fine farm when the Civil war began. He enlisted, and met death in national service, at Fort Pow-

hatan, Virginia, in 1864, a calamitous ending to a worthy patriotic purpose, which set the national cause before personal interests and family ties. He left a widow and eight children, seven of whom were boys. The eldest son followed the father into the Union Army, and was more or less incapacitated for the remainder of his life, in consequence of the hardships he had had to endure while campaigning. Andrew J. purchased the parental farm from his co-heirs, and took active interest in township affairs, undertaking trusteeship and other township responsibilities. His mother lived a widowhood of more than thirty years.

Alexander Vaughan came from Holmes county, Ohio, in the spring of 1835, settling on section 3, town 10 south, range 4 east. They were of Irish origin, and before coming to Ohio had lived in Pennsylvania. Alexander Vaughan married Rebecca Jones in 1827, in Tuscarawas county, Ohio. He only lived in Fulton Township for twelve years, death coming in 1847, at the age of forty-seven years; but he was a useful organizer, and took active interest in township work. Ten children were born to him and his wife, who afterwards married Thomas C. Berry. Two of his sons were soldiers in the Union Army; and, it is claimed, that one of them, James C., was the first white child born within the present boundaries of Fulton Township. The date of his birth was August 30, 1835. He was prominently identified with Fulton Township and Swanton affairs for many decades, and at one time held county office, as county commissioner. He was one of the leading republicans of the Swanton district, and one of the oldest Masons of that place. His agricultural property was about four miles distant from Swanton; part of it eventually passed to his son.

Jacob Hamp, who came from Holmes county, Ohio, also in 1835, also gave two sons to the nation during the Civil war. Jacob's family consisted of five boys, and he was quite elderly at the time of settling. He died in 1850, but his widow lived with her son, John, at Ai, for a further twenty-nine years, and attained the extreme age, it is said, of one hundred and seven years. She was a woman of extraordinary endurance, and "was quite a good physician and nurse." It was stated that "on many a night she rode from two to six miles on horseback, at the calls of these pioneers, often through storms and muddy roads, to render relief to the sick."

William and Sarah (Miller) Stair settled on section 35, in 1835 or 1836, coming from Richland county. He cleared, by "herculean labor," 120 acres before he died in 1848. Of his children, two were sons, and both became soldiers during the war, John being twice taken prisoner, and incarcerated, first, in the historic and dreaded Libby Prison, at Richmond, Virginia, and, after parole and recapture, in Andersonville Prison, Georgia, which was worse. John, later, took a farm in Amboy, but Josiah tilled the parental acres in Fulton Township until he died. He was township trustee for some years, and held other offices, and both were classed with the worthy pioneers of the county.

Shubal Nixon came in 1835, but later moved into Michigan. The Haynes family is now in its fifth generation of residence in Fulton county. Jacob Hayes and his father came to Fulton Township in

1835, or 1836. The father died five or six years later, but Jacob settled near Luke's Corners, and reared a good family. His son George H. became a resident of Swanton; and his son, Edgar E., also lived most of his life in Swanton.

Joseph Babcock, a pioneer of 1835, was a pioneer school teacher, and a most capable one. He died in 1868, leaving a widow and six children. One son, Robert J., was justice of the peace for some years.

William H. Harris, who lived on section 4, town 7 north, range 8 east, from 1835 to 1837, was supposed to have been murdered. His death was a sensational happening in that settlement, where every house was open, and the latch string ever out. His wife died in 1836, and was the first person to be buried in the Viers Cemetery.

David Born, who came from Tuscarawas county, Ohio, in 1853, paid $400 for forty acres of land which either was part of, or adjoined, that which William H. Harris had owned sixteen years earlier; and he paid another $100 for a contiguous acre upon which a log cabin had already been built. That, presumably, was the former home of Mr. Harris. Born used it as a wagon shop, being a wheelwright. He also was a skilful carpenter, and erected many of the frame houses and barns in the township. He was a township trustee during the years of the Civil war, and with Wells Watkins is said to have organized the first Sunday School in the township. One of his sons, Albert, met his death, while campaigning during the Civil war. Another son, James J., eventually purchased the homestead farm, and took part in the pioneer effort to centralize the schools of Fulton Township. David Born was somewhat gifted in mechanics, and got appreciable financial return from the sale of one of his inventions.

Hiram and Cyrus Clark settled in Fulton in 1835, and the name is frequently encountered in pioneer school history of Fulton Township. Hiram was one of the first school directors appointed by the town clerk of Swan Creek, and the first meeting, to organize the school district, was held in his house. Their property passed to members of the Watkins family eventually.

Ami (or Ammi) Richards, and his wife, Percia Pease, came from the East to Medina county, Ohio, in 1835, and in the next year to Lucas county, settling in what became Fulton Township, on section 9, town 10 south, range 4 east. He lived there for almost fifty years, death coming in 1884, he being then seventy-nine years old. Five years later his widow died. Mr. Richards was of studious inclination, and known as a bibliophile; and he was much respected in the township, for many years serving as township treasurer. They had six children, two of whom were sons. Both served in the army during the Civil war. Henry O., later became a prominent man in the township, was a successful building contractor, and farmer, and held several township offices. He succeeded to his father's farm.

David Springer came with his wife and children from West Sullivan, Maine, to the village of Maumee in 1836, and seem to have settled on section 4, town 10 south, range 4 east, of Swan Creek, in the same year. That was his home until his death, in 1866. Two of his sons became prominent in county affairs, Stephen in the Lucas county administration, and Isaac in Fulton county. Isaac Springer's life has been reviewed in the Clinton Township chapter of this volume. He

was a merchant in Ai from 1853 to 1858, and for many years thereafter in Wauseon.

Robert Pennel settled in 1836, but later removed to Napoleon. He, and three of his sons served in the army during the war.

The Watkins family is of record in many townships of Fulton county. Four brothers, two of whom were Christopher and Robert, came into the region in "the early '30s," and entered 1,000 acres of land in Pike and Fulton townships. Robert settled on section 3, town 7 north, range 8 east, of Fulton in 1836; and Christopher also seems to have settled in the township. George W., son of Wesley, and grandson of Christopher Watkins, was born in Fulton Township in 1846, and maintained possession of Fulton Township land throughout his life. And many other men of that patronymic have creditable record in Fulton and neighboring townships' history.

Samuel Durgin, one of the most prominent and capable of the early settlers of Fulton Township, came from New Hampshire in 1837, and settled on section 6, town 10 south, range 4 east. As the years went by and he took part in public affairs, he proved himself to be a sincere, capable, and strong man. He was one of the pioneer school teachers; one of the first school examiners; a conscientious and impartial justice for many years; and a man who exercised strong influence among his fellows throughout his life. He held county office for some years, and in consequence removed to Wauseon, where he died, in 1872 or 1873. His widow, Louisa (Chamberlain) Durgin, lived until January, 1900, being then in her eighty-eighth year. She had lived in Wauseon for twenty-eight years and was lovingly known to very many as "Grandma" Durgin. She was married to Samuel Durgin in 1833, and in the same year they came from New Hampshire to Trumbull county, Ohio, and from there, in the spring of 1837, to Maumee. In 1838, an obituary states, the Durgins "came to Fulton county.....settling first in Amboy Township, and later, in 1841, moving into Fulton Township." As a matter of fact, they located on land which was taken from Amboy and made part of Fulton, when the latter township was erected in 1841. "In 1872" states the obituary, "their last change of residence was made—to the village of Wauseon. Ten days after their arrival in their new home Mr. Durgin departed this life."

The Merrill family is another which has prominent place in Fulton county records. Levi Merrill, with his family, came from Wellington, Maine, in May, 1838, settling on section 4, town 10 south, range 4 east, which was his home for the greater part of his life. He died, of paralysis, at the home of his son-in-law, John Bracken, in Fulton Township, in 1881, being then seventy-nine years old. His wife, Lucy, died in 1872. Their sons Naaman and Ozias were both of notable record in pioneer Fulton—in the county as well as the township record. Naaman's life has been reviewed hereinbefore; Ozias, who died on October 24, 1901, aged seventy-four years, lived a useful life; his public record included six years as county auditor; and in 1873 he was elected to represent Fulton county in the Constitutional Convention, which constitution however was not accepted by the state. His first wife was Jane Vaughan, and one of their children was Frank C., who took over the parental farm, and became a useful

public worker in Fulton Township. J. E. Merrill, son of Ozias Merrill, was county auditor for two terms in Fulton county, and Horace Merrill, another son, was probate judge of Lucas county. The Merrill family certainly is deserving of good place among the builders of Fulton county.

Jonathan Wood is a name frequently encountered in the records of early Fulton. He was one of the pioneer school teachers; was the first clerk of Fulton Township; and was one of the charter members of the Presbyterian Church. He was a sincere and active Christian, organizing the first Sabbath school of the Presbyterian denomination in Fulton Township, and for many years he was its superintendent. He settled in the township in 1838, and died in 1879. During the Civil war he was a nurse in a military hospital.

The Canfield family also comes prominently into Fulton Township and county records. Of good colonial Connecticut stock, the Canfield family had several representatives in early Fulton, part settling in Chesterfield and Clement and Hartman in Fulton Township, in 1838. Arthur B. Canfield, son of Clement, was treasurer of Fulton county, in the '60s, and several of the family saw service during the Civil war, keeping up the record of that family, which contributed members to the army of Washington, and the forces of 1812. The name also appears in the list of Fulton county soldiers of the World war.

H. A. Canfield's great work in developing the county, by reclaiming the Black Swamp of Bean Creek, in Gorham Township, is worthy of record here. A local quip, which in reality is a serious tribute to his work, states that, "God Almighty made the earth, but Herman Canfield reclaimed the Black Swamp."

Luther Dodge, who was early in Fulton Township, probably in, or before, 1838, settled on section 11, town 10 south, range 4 east. He was one of the early school teachers, and upon his farm he conducted a store, probably the first in the township, between the years 1839 and 1844. He then went to Maumee, the county seat, having been elected sheriff of Lucas county. He was a man of good business ability. It was either during his time, or soon after the place had passed into the possession of the Witt family, that a very palatial residence was built upon that homestead. A family record states that the residence "which at the time was looked upon as a veritable mansion" was "erected prior to their removal here." After a half-century it stood practically intact, as "one of the stately old homes of the county." It was probably built by Luther Dodge, who succeeded well in his early merchandising enterprises. Horatio Witt went to California in 1851, and returned in 1854, having succeeded in gold-mining ventures. Afterwards, he added to his farming acreage, and made his property "one of the model farms of Fulton Township."

Isaac Fauble came into the township in 1842, and settled on section 5, town 7 north, range 8 east. He and his wife Rachel A. Watkins) were born in Wayne county, Ohio, and his family was of German origin. Isaac lived in Fulton Township until his death, in 1873, at the age of fifty-eight years. His widow lived for a further thirteen years, and they raised five of their six children. The family is still in the township, their son Robert W., continuing in possession of the

farm, which passed, in course of time, to his sons. One of the daughters of Isaac Fauble married Andrew J. Fraker.

Samuel Dowling came in 1842, from Trumbull county, Ohio, and settled on section 3, town 10 south, range 4 east. He was a typical pioneer, capable, generous, and industrious. He raised a fine family. His son Daniel became sheriff of Fulton county; and Patrick sheriff of Lucas county, and eventually postmaster at Toledo. His younger son, James, remained on the old homestead in Fulton Township, and a decade or so ago passed it on to his son, Henry. James Dowling was a venerable old man, classed with the pioneers, when, in 1907, he narrated some of his early experiences to Mr. Reighard, then editor of the "Fulton County Tribune." He then stated:

"I was born in Trumbull county, this state, in 1835. My father owned a small farm in that county, but he became discontented and wanted to go west. So he sold his farm and, putting his family into a covered wagon, started westward through the forest, for Iowa. Day after day we rode through the forest, fording rivers, building roads over bogs, and ever pushing westward, for my father was a man of determination. Some time we would go days without seeing a settler, and to a boy seven years old the journey became very tiresome. After several weeks' journey we came to what seemed to me to be the sea. It was the Maumee River.....at Toledo. I remember it well, for, on driving onto the old ferry, which was made of logs pinned together, the team became scared, and threatened to jump over the railing into the water. It was just at sunset, and the red sky, the dark water, the creaking logs all combined to cast a gloom over me which I will never forget.

"After crossing the river, we camped on the bank that night where the city of Toledo now stands. There was no sign of a city then, and only a few houses could be seen. Father could have bought any of this land at that time for ten dollars per acre. My brother Dan was taken sick, and as we traveled he grew worse. When we reached Ai, my brother was so sick that we were compelled to abandon the wagon, and seek shelter in an old shanty that stood on the farm now owned by Frank Merrill. For several weeks it was a question whether he would recover or not, but finally he began to improve in health, and in a few months we were able to resume our journey. But winter was coming on, and father decided to wait until spring. When spring arrived, we were so pleased with the new country, and the neighbors had been so kind, that we abandoned the idea of going to Iowa, and have lived all these years within a few miles of the place where father first settled—never leaving what is now Fulton Township.

"This was a wild country during the '40s, and I remember one evening when my brother, Dan, and I were treed by a wolf, while coming home through the woods from a neighbor's. We were pretty badly scared, and I have ofttimes thought that our ability to climb a tree as quickly as a squirrel saved us much trouble. We boys were always on the lookout for wolves, and they were about the only things that we were afraid of.

"Levi Merrill, grandfather of the county auditor, Daniel Berry, Caleb Vaughan, father of our ex-county commissioner, J. C. Vaughan, all lived around Ai, and were very kind and good neighbors. There

was no Swanton, no Delta, no Wauseon then. The Lake Shore Railroad was unheard of, or thought of, at that time, and all travelling was done by stage, horseback, or in emigrant wagons. You fellows who now fly over the country at the rate of a mile a minute on these fast trains, or who speed across the country in an automobile, at the rate of twenty miles an hour, can realize but little how slow our progress was, winding our way through the forest, searching for the high ground that our team might not mire. In those days, to go from my farm to Wauseon would have been a big journey for one day, whereas now the journey is made in an automobile in an hour.

"From 1842 to 1860, nearly every settler in the fall was afflicted with ague and fever. The doctors in those days went on horseback from one settlement to another. Dr. William Ramsay, of Delta, was a young man then, and assisted in relieving the suffering of those early settlers. Many a time has he ridden all night through the woods, to reach some settler's cabin around Ai."

Martin and Emery Wilson or (Willson) came into the township and settled in either 1833, or 1834, probably the later date, although a family record asserts that it was in 1834. Martin married Jane Fullerton, who was one of the early teachers in Fulton and Swan Creek, and they raised a large family. Martin lived on his Fulton Township farm, situated about two miles west of Ai, until he had reached nonogenarian age. The Willson family seems originally to have settled in Pike Township, in 1833, or 1834, Nathan and Margaret (Potter) Willson, parents of Martin and Emery (or Emira), the former being then about sixteen years old and Emira two years younger. Nathan Willson settled on Etna Ridge, and there one of their children, Katherine, died of consumption in 1835, her's being the first grave dug by white men on Etna Ridge. Nathan Willson died in 1840 and his wife in 1844; and it is reasonable to suppose that Martin, who would then be about twenty-six years old, had remained with his parents until about that time; and did not take up land in Fulton Township until then, or perhaps not until he married Jane Fullerton in 1845. Emery, or Emira, was a stalwart pioneer. He cleared, or finished the clearing of, three good farms in Fulton Township, and in 1892 moved to Swanton.

The Fenton brothers, James and John, were among the leaders of early Fulton. They settled in 1847, and both developed good properties. John was justice of the peace for many years, and held many township offices. In the '70s, he served two terms as State Representative.

And so on. Much more could be written of Fulton Township early settlers, but there is not available space. However, many of the prominent families of later Fulton will have notice in the biographical volume of this work.

Early Industries

John W. Harter was the first to establish a grist milling business in Fulton Township. In 1835, he caused to be erected a grist-mill, for horse power, on the north part of his land, near where Winfield Cline's house later stood. The mill was known as the "Horse Mill," and had a capacity of from two to five bushels an hour. It might

have been appropriately termed the "Ox Mill," for oxen furnished the propelling power oftener than horses. The bolt of the mill was turned by hand, as one would turn a grindstone. Altogether, the mill was a primitive one, yet the flour made was probably more wholesome and nourishing than the highly bolted, or denatured, product of present-day mills. The mill was moved in 1840 one mile south to Swan Creek, and made a water mill, Harter and Stair being in partnership. Where the Horse Mill originally stood, Michael Cline, in 1853, erected a sawmill, which however was burned three years later.

A grist-mill was erected at Ai, in 1866, by Miles Hayes. It ran for very many years, eventually passing into the ownership of C. Packham. And Pilliod Brothers, in 1887, went into the milling business.

Nicholas Q. Berry built the first sawmill, establishing it on their own farm, through which ran Swan Creek. It could only be used, however, when there was plenty of water. Iram Strong built a steam sawmill in 1852, about a mile north of Luke's Corners; in 1856 Michael Kreiger built a mill; and in about 1860 Miles Hayes put one up a short distance north of Swanton. Later, J. D. Hall built a saw and planing mill in Swanton.

The Village of Ai

Ai may be supposed to have had its origin in the establishment of a postoffice, under that name, in the log-house of David Springer, at that place, in 1843. Luther Dodge had quite a large store on his land, section 11, town 10 south, range 4 east, from 1839 to 1844, but the first store in Ai was built in 1849, by Thomas C. Berry, who sold in 1851 to Henry Haughton. In 1853 Isaac Springer bought a half-interest, and in the following year Samuel Smout became his partner. In 1854 Ozias Merrill purchased Springer's interest. In connection with the store was an ashery, which brought trade. However, Ai's chances of rapid development passed when the railway was built in 1853-55.

The little hamlet of Lytton, situated northwest of Ai consists mainly of a large country store, which is credited with doing a larger hardware business than that of the whole of Swanton.

Regarding Ai, James Dowling, hereinbefore referred to, stated: "This being a part of Lucas county, all the business was transacted at Maumee, which was then the county seat. Here was where we went to mill, and did all our trading.....Ai, being located on the Toledo and Angola road, soon grew to be quite a trading center. The late Isaac Springer and O. Merrill, conducted a store there for several years. At one time, Ai was the trading centre of the eastern part of this county, and the western part of Lucas. The Angola road was one of the principal roads of the county, and a settler coming from the east took this road, or the Plank Road, some six or eight miles north of it. With the coming of the steam and electric roads and the stoning and gravelling of the public highway, Ai, like the old Roman empire lost her prestige as a commercial centre."

Today, Ai is of importance only as the place in which is the excellent centralized school of Fulton Township.

The Village of Swanton

The promising Village of Swanton is situated partly in Fulton Township, and partly in Swan Creek. In point of population, Swanton of Swan Creek is of slightly greater importance, and the history of the village, as a whole, will be found in the chapter regarding Swan Creek Township. The pioneer settler was Joseph Miller, who owned the greater part of the land where Swanton now stands.

Swanton, in 1866, was thus described by the compiler of Brown's "Gazetteer of the Michigan Southern Railroad": "Swanton, late Centreville, Fulton County. . . . There are only three business places there. Dr. A. L. Bassett keeps a general assortment of drugs and merchandise, and a tavern; Paul Beard, grocer; Joseph Miller, dry goods and merchandise, also station agent. There is a saw-mill half a mile north, and the town is located one-half mile south, comprising two stores, hotel, and blacksmith's shop. Swanton, from which more recently the station was named, is one and a half miles southeast; has a hotel, store, wagon, and blacksmith's shop."

The population of that part of Swanton which is in Fulton Township can be separately given, for the decadal census of 1890, when it was 310 persons; in 1900 the population had increased to 465; and in 1910 to 493. During the three periods, the figures for Swanton in Swan Creek Township were: 1890, 198; 1900, 422; 1910, 565. The separate figures for 1920 cannot yet be given, but the preliminary announcement of population issued by the Bureau of the Census in June, 1920, shows Swanton to have a combined population of 1,248.

Schools of Fulton Township

The first schoolhouse built in Fulton Township, or rather in that part of Swan Creek Township, as it then was, was erected on the southeast corner of the eastern half of the northeast quarter of section ten, town ten south, range four east, in 1836, or 1837. It was on land upon which the Rev. John Shaw had settled in 1834, but had vacated in 1835, and it was built to serve the needs of most of the families who came in 1834 and 1835, probably drawing its first pupils from the Teachworth, Lake, Boyd, Berry, Welch, Wilcox and Babcock families. It may have been the schoolhouse at which Gideon W. Raymond was the pioneer teacher, although early teachers in that house were Joseph Babcock, and Luther Dodge. It was of course built of logs, and its furnishings were of the primitive kind generally associated with such times and houses.

The second schoolhouse was established in 1837, and was probably the little log house at Ai, at which Julia Chamberlain, sister of Samuel Durgin, taught the first session, in 1837.

The third schoolhouse was that designated the Clark District, or District No. 3, as it officially was. That was built in 1838, and Gideon W. Raymond may have taught school there in the winter of 1838, although there is no record of a school term before that of August, 1839, when it was decided to employ a "female." Who she was is not recorded, although a statement, in an earlier historical work on Fulton county, that Harriet O'Brien "taught the first sum-

mer term in the Clark district, but was taken sick, Miss Huldah Merrill finished the term" is not quite correct, for the school records show that emergency arrangement was made in the winter session of 1841-42, Harriet O'Brien receiving $1.50 a week from November 15, 1841, to January, 1842, the entry reading "Directors agree with Huldah Merrill to continue the school commenced by Miss O'Brien (and left in consequence of sickness) and to continue it twelve weeks from the time it commenced."

The Clark District was organized on July 28, 1838. On August 7, 1838, the directors met to view ground for a site, "and stuck a stake for said site on a piece of ground near the quarter post on the north line of section five, township seven." There, on November 24th, of that year, they met "according to appointment" and "commenced chopping the logs;" and five days later, on November 29, 1838, "the district met and raised a schoolhouse in said district." That schoolhouse is described in the article before-referred to by James Nobbs, whose parents settle in the neighborhood in 1835. He said: "The schoolhouse where I attended school was a log building, with desks fastened to the walls of the building. Our desks were boards fastened on wooden pins driven into the wall, while the seats were slabs split from logs put on wooden legs."

School discipline was somewhat different than now. Mr. Nobbs said:

"Talk about school government! That was when we had it. The teacher who could not thrash the biggest boy in school, or at least was not afraid to try it, didn't last very long. Every teacher had his water beech, and the first fellow who broke a rule was sure to receive a flogging. The first thing the teacher did was to secure order, and then came instruction; and the question has sometimes come to me whether we had not gone to the other extreme now, and was giving too much instruction these days, without paying enough attention to discipline and order."

The first frame schoolhouse in the township was probably that built in 1842, or earlier, in District No. 1, "near the house of L. Dodge," as an entry in the school records of District No. 3, reads. In 1843, the directors of the Clark district arranged with Bradley Wood for a frame house, he having undertaken to build one "the size of the one in District No. 1, in this town, near the house of L. Dodge" for two hundred dollars. The frame schoolhouse built in the Ai District has been stated to have been the first built in the township, but that is not borne out by other records. James Dowling, who came into the township in 1842, in the autumn, and was then a boy of seven years, stated that:

"The first schoolhouse that I know of in what is now Fulton Township was an old log building standing a short distance east of the present residence of Richard Pinkstock. It was some three or four miles from our home, and here was where I first attended school. A little later a schoolhouse was built at Ai. Like the children of all pioneers, our education was very limited. You must remember there were no free schools in those days, like we have now. Then, a school was supported by each family agreeing to give so much to pay the teacher, and to board her or him a portion of the time there was school."

A schoolhouse was opened at East Swanton in 1839, but that record will be included in the Swanton section of Swan Creek Township chapter.

Samuel Durgin taught for some years in the Ai school, and Gideon W. Raymond was the teacher for at least four of its early years. Other pioneer teachers were Luther Dodge, Almeda Doughty, A. Sawyer, Lucy Clough, Margaret Emery, Jonathan Woods, Ezra Tunison, John Clendening, Elenor Johnson, Persis Scott, Ruthett Deblin, Caroline Wood, Moses Curtis, D. Allen, Lemuel Johnson, M. McCoy, William Lewis, Hartley Clute, N. S. Merrill, Eli J. Reed, Mary M. Barrett, Charles Thompson, Jane Templeton, Fanny Wood, Bethulia Day, Eliza E. McCaskey, Warren A. Harrington, Hannah Morel, (or Merrill) J. W. Taft, Esther Merrill, Charles B. Hayes, O. W. Parrish, Alvina Griffin, C. A. Harmer, Hester Trowbridge, Amelia Quiggle, D. C. Baxter, Moses D. Grandy, Elizabeth Mack, E. Van Fleet, (or Van Vleet) David Swank, Ruth Fewless, Lisa (or Elizabeth) Lucas, Mary Fraker, E. Fassett, Clarry A. Tappan, Agnes Mecologue, Louisa Cameron, John Raker and Frank Beard.

Early school directors include James Egnew, George Curtis, Thomas S. Sabin, Charles Fairchilds, Reuben Hastings, W. D. Herrick, Chester Scott, George Black, Hiram Clark, Charles Gunn, Cyrus Clark, Daniel Hollinshead, J. Thrasher, F. Chamberlain, John Viers, Gideon W. Raymond, John Nobbs, Isaac Day, Eli J. Reed, Samuel Cable, L. Dodge, Daniel H. Petteys, Thomas Watkins, Epaphrus Thompson, Stephen Watkins, William Critzer, James Watkins, Wesley Watkins, Isaac Fauble, E. S. Munger, and Thomas Martin.

As to salaries paid to teachers; Gideon W. Raymond in 1840 contracted to teach a winter term of school for a stipend of fifteen dollars a month; in 1879, "Jim" (James F.) Burroughs was "hired to teach school," in District No. 4, of Fulton Township, for thirty-five dollars a month, with the possibility of dismissal at any time, the minute book of the school directors stating that "he is to quitt any time we think he don't do justice for the school. . . and he has the same right on his part to stop any time he can't get along with the school." Today, the salary expected by teachers is very near to $100 a month, or should be.

As to cost of maintaining a school district, there is probably not a school district of today (certainly there is not in Fulton Township, where all have been centralized) that would not require many times the amount yearly that was needed to keep District No. 3 of Fulton Township in operation for the school year of 1841, when the cost was $44.00, $10.86 of which was borne by the county.

The original log houses cost practically nothing but labor; and the first frame buildings erected in Fulton Township for school purposes cost not more than two hundred dollars; but the present fine centralized school at Ai is valued at $26,750, with fittings.

The centralization of schools is a very creditable page in the history of Fulton Township. Mr. Reighard's newspaper in issue of December 18, 1908, explained briefly its development and consummation, stating, in part:

"The schoolhouse of sub-district No. 2, known as Ai school, was situated almost exactly at the geographical centre of the township, This was a two-story, two-room building, and in it was maintained a

graded school with two teachers in charge. With the gradual decline of the Village of Ai, the school enumeration became gradually smaller, consequently the attendancee was not as large as could be conveniently accommodated. When, in the spring of 1903, the teacher of the adjoining district to the west, No. 3, resigned about two months before the school term was completed, the board of education made arrangements for the transportation of the pupils to the Ai school."

Thus centralization began in Northwest Ohio, Fulton Township being the first throughout all that area to bring the theory into practice; and while their pioneer effort arose because of the exigency of the moment, the school directors who guided the change through to complete success (and there were many perplexing problems to solve before success could come) deserve to be placed on the county historical record. They were, states the "Fulton County Tribune" of December 18, 1908: Ed Smith, Henry Dowling, H. E. Wilson, John Hable, F. C. Merrill, with I. L. Richards, clerk. Of course, it was long after centralization began in Fulton Township before a much larger schoolhouse became necessary. The directors went steadily forward with their plans until in 1912 the present fine schoolhouse at Ai was in course of erection. In 1919, it was attended by 230 pupils, of high and elementary grades. Its teaching staff numbers seven, and the school is well adapted to the needs of the township, its curriculum including courses in agriculture and domestic science. In addition, Fulton Township scholars also have the Swanton school within reach. That is a special school district, and serves Swan Creek as well as Fulton Township; and it is one of the fine schoolhouses of Fulton county, having cost $35,000, when built in 1904. Then, Fulton Township has a special fractional school district, Amboy-Fulton, in which district is a one-room schoolhouse, of rural class.

Fulton Centralized School District

The present boards of education are as follows: A. B. Putman, president; John M. Estell, clerk; John Fauble, Geo. R. McQuillan, A. A. Kline, and Vern Robasser, directors.

Amboy-Fulton Special District

Ed. Luke, president; Burton Wilson, clerk; Vern Luke, John Fike, E. T. Penny, and Peter Libeler, directors.

Swanton District

F. A. Carpenter, president; Mrs. Laura Reed, clerk; Dr. H. E. Brailey, Dr. L. C. Cosgrove and A. K. Keener, directors.

Early Church History

It may be presumed that the Rev. John Shaw, who came to Fulton Township in 1834, conducted religious services in his, or other log cabins. But he did not remain long. Verity says that J. W. Harter's cabin was used in the summer and autumn of 1834 and 1835, Mr. Shaw conducting the services. There was a Presbyterian Society in the

township very early in its settlement, Jonathan Wood being one of the most active pioneer members. In 1842, the Rev. Gideon Johnson came from the state of New Hampshire, and formed a circuit, holding services in the schoolhouse of Ai, and district No. 1, known as the Dodge, and later as the Witt, district. Amboy and Pike Townships were also in his circuit. It is stated that Jonathan Wood organized the first Sabbath School—probably the first Presbyterian Sunday School; for it has been claimed that David Born and Wells Watkins organized the first Sunday School in the township.

Charles V. Merrill, who came from Maine in 1837, and settled on section four, town ten south, range four east, was a minister of the Christian Church, and the first to take up permanent residence in Fulton Township. He was active in pioneer church work in many townships of Lucas, and later Fulton, County, and he remained in church work until he died.

Population

The statistics for 1840, 1850, and 1860 cannot be given, but the population of Fulton Township in 1870 was 1,328, and it then stood third in point of population, among the twelve townships of Fulton County; in 1880 it was fifth, with 1,555 persons; in 1890, the population was 1,580; in 1900, 1,693; in 1910, 1,637; and in 1920, the "Preliminary Announcement of Population" issued by the federal authorities after the first count, records Fulton Township population as 1,677 persons. In only three townships of Fulton County was there an increase in population during the last decadal period, Fulton Township being the third. The figures given above include the figures for that part of the Village of Swanton which is in Fulton Township.

CHAPTER XXII

HISTORY OF SWAN CREEK TOWNSHIP

The Township of Swan Creek was the second to be organized after Lucas County was erected, in 1835, as has elsewhere in this volume been explained. York Township was the first, it embracing originally all the territory with the county, excepting that portion ceded by Williams and Henry Counties in 1850, when Fulton County was formed. York Township was organized on June 6, 1836, and Swan Creek sometime later in the same year, its western boundary having never since been changed. Its southern boundary was extended two miles south into Henry County, and for the whole six miles of its latitudinal extent, when Fulton County was erected in 1850, and it lost territory from the Fulton line (e. g., from the boundary line surveyed by Mr. Fulton, and designated Fulton's line, to distinguish it from the other state and county boundary line surveyed by Mr. Harris, and called Harris' line), to its present boundary, when Fulton Township, Lucas County, was organized in 1841. Apart from these changes, the area of Swan Creek Township has remained as it now is, and its present boundaries are clearly marked on map reproduced on one of the earlier pages of this work.

The township takes its name, as will be surmised, from Swan Creek, which runs almost due east through the township, and eventually passes into the Maumee River. Other streams are Blue Creek and Bad Creek, both coursing in a southeasterly direction, and both being somewhat sluggish. The soil is in places heavy, and in other parts sandy. Much of the land was actually under water in the early decades of settlement, and had, literally, to be reclaimed; and much of it was almost bare of vegetation, i. e., of large standing timber, being designated "openings." These parts were sandy, and considered unfertile. Undoubtedly, without treatment and patient and skilful cultivation, these sandy stretches would not be as productive as the heavier soil; and in the early years of settlement, those families that settled upon the open land had to exist as best they could on poor yields. Those that settled upon the wet lands also had a trying time, and had to reclaim their land tract by tract, and also clear the standing timber. Much ditching, or draining, must have been done, in the early years of settlement, upon the initiative of individual landowners, but the first reference made to such work in township records was in 1855, when, on March 12th, the Township Trustees met and "sold out" a contract for building of a portion of a ditch. The record reads: "John King bid off 115 rods.....at 44 cents a rod." The work of draining continued through the sixties, seventies, and eighties, and much under-draining by tiling was done by farmers, so that the township today compares, in agricultural yield, with most of the other similar areas of the county.

Early Settlers

The first settler was William Meeker, it is universally acknowleged. He probably is deserving of place with Eli Phillips and Joseph Bates, as the pioneer settlers of Fulton County. He is believe to have been in the township, also in 1833, the year in which Phillips and Bates are recorded as having settled. William King, who settled in York Township in May, 1834, referred to Meeker in his reminiscences, stating that upon the entreaty of Peter Manor, a hotelkeeper at Providence, he (King) "was induced to go some twelve miles north, to what was then called the Six Mile Woods" and there he found William Meeker, "who had settled in the edge of this woods in 1833, or the year before, now in Swan Creek." Eli Phillips settled in 1833, but Joseph Bates was stated by his daughter to have been in Franklin Township earlier.

However, William Meeker was undoubtedly the pioneer settler of Swan Creek Township. Peter Manor, who probably was the most reliable authority, testified that Meeker settled in the Six Mile Woods in 1833. And the early settlers within Swan Creek Township seemed to have recognized the priority of Meeker. He was the first, or at least one of the first clerks of the township (the early records are not available, but there is a document on file showing that he was clerk ln 1839) ; and he was the first postmaster, that office being established on the farm of S. H. Cately (or rather, where he eventually located) in 1838. That office also served the people of York Township, and, singularly enough, was named Delta.

In 1834, incoming settlers included John Witmer, John Fassett, Thomas Gleason, David Williams, Looman Hall, Nathaniel Leggett, Eccles Nay, Sidney Hawley, and William Fewless; in 1836, Jesse Browning, George Curtis, Ormand Pray came in; in 1838, Wells Watkins; in 1839, Jacob Reighard; in 1844, S. H. Cately; in 1848, Palmer Lewis; in 1852, Ora Blake; in 1853, John Templeton and Wesley Knight; and in 1857, Moses R. Brailey. These were prominent settlers. Township records of the first years of Fulton County show that in the early fifties there were the Stall, Cullen, Johnson, Mead, Coss, Roos, Waldron, Wyman, Chamberlin, Allman, Carpenter, Earl and Teachman families resident in Swan Creek; and a Swanton list of early settlers compiled and published some years ago gives the year of settlement of some of the more prominent residents as follows: Joseph H. Miller, 1840; B. W. Bayes, 1847; A. C. Tremain, 1848; S. S. Carter, 1847; William Lewis, 1850; J. H. Brigham, 1852; John McLaughlin, 1852; George H. Haynes, 1852; G. W. Hoffman, 1857; Thomas Elton, 1861; Jeff. Lutz, Wm. Geyser, R. C. Brattin, and O. N. Detwiler, in 1865; H. B. Smith, in 1867; A. J. Hart, in 1868; William Perkins, in 1870; C. J. Brindley, in 1873; A. Q. Price, in 1877, and the Pilliod brothers in 1883. Other records show that residents during the sixties included: John de la Mare, John Westbrook, Thomas Waffle, the Sheffield, Geere, Brice, Harrison, Hoyt, Horton, Houge, Whitmore, Warren, Immel, Fox, Farren, Ransom, Keith, Barr, Raker, Bixler, Moyer, Swartz, Jay, Montgomery and Brewster families; and there were many other families probably of the same praiseworthy usefulness as pioneers and home builders.

John Witmer settled on section 17. He was a worthy man of

Swiss birth, born in Berne. Their first cabin was of bark, and there the wife and children lived until a small piece of ground had been cleared and planted. Then a more substantial log house was erected. The family is of good Civil War record, one of the sons giving his life to the nation.

Nathaniel Leggett was one of the strong men of the settlement. He came in, about 1834, and his personality soon became evident. He was a man of athletic inclinations, and of pronounced administrative ability. His life has been reviewed elsewhere in this work, mention being made of him in many connections, as was of course proper for his activities were evident in many phases of the history of Fulton County. He was a clerk of Swan Creek Township in 1840, and will always be referred to with pride by the people of Swan Creek Township, in which was his first home in Fulton County, and in which he found his first opportunity to participate in public work. He was one of the most active workers for the separation of Fulton County from Lucas, or rather, for the erection of Fulton County from part of Lucas.

Eccles Nay entered government land in 1834, coming from Jefferson County, Ohio, and earlier from New England. It is said that after paying for his land, Nay had no personal property of any kind except an ox team, yet with the aid of kind neighbors he struggled through the hard times.

In 1834, William Fewless settled. He came from Long Island, New York, and was so discouraged by his early experiences in the swampy and mosquito-ridden country of Lucas County, that he returned to Long Island. He, however, was soon again in Swan Creek, and hereafter made it his home until he died in 1881. Members of his family have place in pioneer school history.

George Curtis, and two brothers-in-law, left Orleans County, New York, in 1836, and "after several weeks of toil and hardship, over muddy trails and swollen streams, the little wagon train arrived at the Maumee River, near Perrysburg, where they met an old acquaintance named Browning. Browning was also looking for land." The acquaintance, Browning, was evidently Jesse Browning, who settled in Swan Creek about that time, and lived there for more than thirty years. The narrative continues:

"They proceeded up the river, expecting to cross by ferry at Damascus. When near Rouche de Bouef, just below Turkey Foot Rock, they met a man who was unfriendly to the ferryman. He advised them that it was unnecessary to pay a fee to the ferryman, as the river could easily be forded with perfect safety. An attempt to ford the stream nearily cost them their lives.

"Pushing on, they arrived at a settlement of half a-dozen log cabins, called Centreville. The Curtis family, and Browning, decided to locate there, while the two brothers proceeded farther into the wilderness, one locating in what is now Chesterfield Township, and the other in Michigan. For about six weeks, the Curtis family occupied a location near where James Gibbs' residence now stands, until the father could procure some land. He finally entered and bought from the government, three hundred acres, and built a log cabin on the bank of the creek, where the country home of N. B. Cairl later was.

"When the Curtis family had located, their neighbors were three

hundred Indians, camped on the opposite bank of the creek, on the farm now owned by J. E. Coon. The Indian children were the playmates of the Curtis boys. The family was on fairly good terms with the redmen, and one day two Indians called at the home and inquired for the father, who had gone to the little trading post of Maumee, to procure provisions. The mother readily guessed the object of their visit, and not wishing to divulge his absence, and made some excuse when they asked for 'Firewater,' which was plentiful with the settlers, and was used for pickling. She told the Indian she would give him all his basket would hold. The Indian left, and soon returned, with a basket coated inside and out with ice, and received the 'firewater'."

The Curtis family has maintained connection with Swanton to this day, and own an up-to-date dry goods store in the growing village.

Ormand Pray arrived in 1836, and settled on, or near section thirty-four, which was very swampy.

Wells Watkins, a settler of '38, became one of the leading men of the township, and one of the most popular. He came from Wayne county, Ohio, in August, 1838, with his newly-wedded wife, and nine days later settled on section ten of Swan Creek. It is recorded that he took his first grain, on his back, to Harter's horse mill, three miles distant. And when it was necessary to make a trip to Maumee, the journey would occupy the greater part of a week. So that his family adopted every means possible to make all they could at home. His wife, Sarah Newhouse, made clothing of buckskin, linsey, and coarse linen, "around the cabin hearth" at home, and they reared a large family, many of whom became prominently indentified with township and school and church administration. Also, Wells Watkins, and a son, rallied to the call of the Nation in the 'sixties, and thus have place upon the roll of the country's truest patriots.

The coming of Jacob Reighard, in 1839, began a connection which has been strongly maintained, in useful participation in various phases of the development and life of Fulton county from the pioneer period to the present. The record is elsewhere reviewed, so that not more than passing mention is necessary here. Some of the family still have possession of the land entered by Jacob Reighard, and cleared by him and his sons; while the family record runs through township, county, and state records, and comes into national records in the Civil War service of some of its members. The record of Frank H. Reighard, as school teacher, newspaper editor, county surveyor, and especially as state representative, is perhaps the most prominent, although he would agree that the most vital was the pioneer labor of his stalwart ancestors. And, it is hoped, that this historical work, of which Frank H. Reighard is the capable and interested supervising editor, will constitute one additional and appreciated service he will have rendered his home county.

Joseph H. Miller, who owned the greater part of the land upon which Swanton eventually developed, is, strictly, a pioneer of Fulton Township, but as the history of Swanton is shown, in whole, in this chapter, it will not be inappropriate also to make some reference here to Mr. Miller. He came in 1840, and then was a young man of twenty-eight years, the adult age of which had been somewhat adventurously spent. He was undoubtedly well able to care for himself when he came to Lucas county, and settled in Swan Creek. He had been for

a short while employed on the Miami and Erie Canal, driving towboats, and three years after he settled at Swanton he married Lydia Cass, a Canadian. They had four children, among them James W., who for long was a resident of Swanton. They live together in marital helpfulness for more than forty years, Mrs. Miller dying in 1884 in Swanton. Joseph Miller worked at railroad construction, when the Air Line was being built in 1853-54, receiving seventy-five cents a day for his labor. And he did much trading, in farm produce, soon becoming established in a lucrative store business in Swanton. That, added to his farm holdings there, to his salary as station agent at Swanton, and the ever-increasing value of his land, eventually made him a man of considerable means. He added to it during the year in which he was also an innkeeper in Swanton; and although it was to his interest to encourage, by donations of land, the development of the community, he undoubtedly showed in many of his actions that he was a man of helpful public spirit, even though, with some basis, he may be criticized for his slowness, at the outset, in grasping the possibilities that were before him, as land owner, after railway connection had been established.

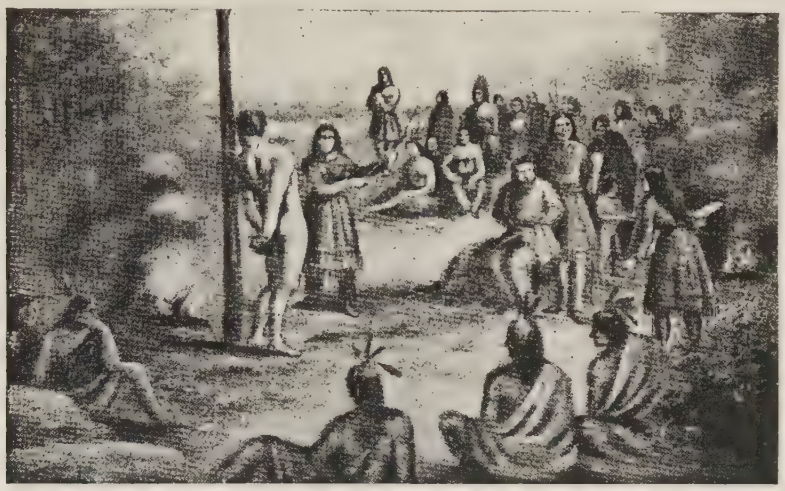
Socrates H. Cately took up residence in Swan Creek Township in 1844, and soon became prominent in township and county affairs. He was a very active and capable man, and had part in the agitation which resulted in the creation of Fulton county, in 1850. David Williams and S. H. Cately were the representatives of Swan Creek Township at a meeting of township delegates of the democratic party, held at the house of Daniel Knowles, in Pike Township, on March 20, 1850, "to form a democratic ticket." At that meeting they decided to "run" Nathaniel Leggett for treasurer. Leggett, however, had been appointed associate judge of the Common Pleas Court by the governor, who under the old constitution had such power, and had to decide whether to accept the judgeship, or the nomination for county treasurer. He decided on the latter, seeing that the whigs had also nominated him for that office, thus assuring him election unopposed; and as he could not hold the judgeship also he declined to accept that appointment, and, stated James S. Riddle in his "Short History of Fulton County," S. H. Cately was appointed in his place. There are some conflicting records, as has been noted in an earlier chapter, but undoubtedly S. H. Cately sat in the first, or second session of the Common Pleas Court of Fulton County. He was assessor of Swan Creek Township in 1852, which is the earliest year for which township records are available, and in all probability he held other township offices prior to that. For forty-two years he was a resident in Swan Creek Township, and latterly lived in Delta. He also served for three years as probate judge, succeeding L. H. Upham, who was unseated because of irregularity in election. Judge Cately took keen interest in historical matters, and was one of the vice-presidents of the Fulton County Pioneer and Historical Society. He was twice married, and to the second marriage there were ten children.

Palmer Lewis came from New York state to Erie county, Ohio, where he married, and in 1848 settled in Swan Creek. He was justice of the peace, and township trustee for many years.

John Templeton was a man of extraordinary physique, reputed

to have been almost 450 pounds in weight, and to have had proportionate strength. He was a conspicious figure in the township—a man of strong frame, and, by the record, his abnormal weight seems to have been more muscle than flesh. John Templeton came in 1853; and an extensive review of the Templeton family history will be found in volume two of this work. Jane Templeton, presumably of this family,, was one of the early school teachers of Fulton Township. The grandfather of John Templeton was with Colonel Crawford in 1782 at the battle of Sandusky Plains, which ended in the capture, torture and death of Colonel Crawford, in the presence of the notorious and inhuman renegade, Simon Girty.

The Brailey family is one of the leading families of Swan Creek, and the name has been conspicious in many public records. Moses R. Brailey settled on section twenty-two, in 1856, or 1857, was an attorney, and while he was active in that profession, his inclination seemed to be to agricultural life, possibly that of a gentleman-farmer.



THE GRANDFATHER OF JOHN TEMPLETON WAS, IN 1872, WITH COL. CRAWFORD, WHO WAS TORTURED AND PUT TO DEATH BY THE INDIANS.

The "Fulton County Tribune" reviewing the life of General Brailey, for he attained the rank of brigadier-general of volunteers during the Civil War, stated:

"General Moses Randolph Brailey was one of the county's most popular and prominent men. General Brailey was a native of Canandaigua County, New York, where he was born, November 2, 1817.....He removed to Norwalk, where he engaged in farming and lumber business. Here he was elected a justice of the peace, the beginning of his highly successful public career. He studied law .....and was admitted to practice.....in 1846, and for eleven years practiced in that city (Norwalk). In 1852 he was.....prosecuting attorney.....and two years later re-elected. In 1857 he removed to Fulton county, where he continued to pratcice law, and was twice elected prosecuting attorney, in 1858 and 1860. Before the expiration of the second term, the Civil War broke out. Resigning his office, he

tendered his services to his country, although considerably past the age for military duty. His first enlistment was early in 1861, for a period of three months. He.....re-enlisted on August 21,.....as captain of Company I, of the Thirty-eighth Ohio Volunteer Infantry. Having been wounded in a skirmish, near Spring Mill, Ky., he was discharged in March, 1862. On May following, he again entered the service, as captain of Company G, of the Eighty-fifth Ohio Regiment, and on August 22nd was transferred to the One Hundred and Eleventh Ohio Regiment. Major Brailey participated in the battles of Kentucky and East Tennessee, and in January, 1863, was promoted to brevet-colonel of the regular army, and brigadier-general of volunteers. By reason of impaired health, occasioned principally by his former wounds, he was obliged to leave the service, receiving an honorable discharge during the winter of 1863-64.....He.....at the solicitation of Governor Brough, accepted the office of paymaster.....until the close of the war. In 1865, he was elected comptroller of the treasury of the State of Ohio, serving until 1871.....In 1876, he returned to Fulton county."

General Brailey built a magnificent home upon his estate in Brailey, Swan Creek, quite a baronial mansion, it seems, with massive walnut staircase, after the style of the old English country houses. The "Fulton County Tribune," July 5, 1907, featured this fine old mansion, stating:

"It was erected in 1865 (Verity says 1869), and cost $5,500. At the time of erecting this, then palatial, home Colonel Brailey owned six or seven hundred acres of land surrounding this home. The house stands upon a hill, and in a silent language it speaks of the enterprise and the high ideals of its builder, and of his conception of what the future of this county would be. It was erected at the close of the Civil War....Building such a home at the close of so terrible a conflict.... it speaks for his faith in the stability of the Government.

"The home was erected in the midst of a dense forest. To the west, a few miles, were the Lewis and Adams settlements; to the east, about the same distance, was the settlement of Wm. Perkins; on the south W. J. Lutz and William Phare had built homes; while to the north were the settlements of B. Bixler and Ora Blake. To build a home like this, nearly a half-century ago was a gigantic undertaking. The brick for the building was made in Gates' tile yard, in Delta, some eight miles distant.

"The building was fashioned after the most modern homes of the Eastern states of that time. It has a broad open stairway, in the center of the building, leading to the upper rooms. The front doors, and the inside woodwork were of black walnut, and hand-carved. The building is a large one, and is divided into reception halls, parlors, dining rooms, libraries, art rooms, and chambers.

"The old mansion still stands on the hill south of the Brailey Station, but the hands that laid the walls, that moulded the brick for its construction, or shaped the wood to add beauty to its interior, have laid their last wall, have manufactured their last brick, have moulded their last piece of wood, and are now quietly resting in their narrow home. A number of changes in the interior of the building have been made .....but the outside remains unchanged, as designed by Colonel Brailey, and builded by a Mr. Hogel."

In the eighties, General Brailey and his wife removed to Wauseon, where they spent the remainder of their lives, both eventually being laid in the Wauseon Cemetery. The Brailey family comes prominently into Wauseon history, as has been noted in the Clinton Township chapter; and have to this day held connection with Swan Creek Township, and Swanton.

Ora (or Orra) Blake, who came from Allegany county, New York, in 1852, with his wife, Catherine E. Osterhout, and was a comparatively near neighbor of General Brailey for many years, lived the greater part of his life in Swan Creek, and was a useful settler. He built many of the farm buildings of the neighborhood. For the last four years of his life, which ended in 1911, at the venerable age of ninety, he lived with his son at Emmenlaw, State of Washington, where he was buried.

Wesley Knight was one of the helpful settlers. He had courageous enterprise and worthy principle when he ventured into a country in which whiskey and alcoholic liquors were freely sold, and extensively consumed, and out of the dregs of a reeking saloon made a temperance tavern at Centreville, such as did credit to that community and the county. His coming is referred to in the narrative of his son, Theodore, which story has been specially written for this chapter.

Thomas Elton will be remembered as a worthy pioneer, a home builder, one of those who worked hard through poverty to a worthy independence. He contributed to the wealth of the county by his indefatigable labors. He was born in England, and married there, and his son William H., who died in 1906 and is classed with the pioneers, was six years old when the family emigrated, taking up residence in Medina county, Ohio, and in 1861, or 1862, moving to Swan Creek. The son, William H., lived in Swan Creek from his twelfth year, and at his death an obituary stated that "in the development of the township.....Mr. Elton contributed his full share. Beginning in poverty, by industry, economy and close application to business, he acquired considerable wealth, which he used for the betterment of mankind, and the industrial improvement of his community. He was a kind, genial, and benevolent citizen." He was buried in the Raker Cemetery, which was established in 1836, and where lie many of the Reighard and Elton families. Elizabeth Elton, who married George Reighard, father of Frank H., was a daughter of Thomas Elton, the pioneer.

Another of the grand old settlers is William Jefferson Lutz, who was born in 1833, and is still alive, and comparatively vigorous—particularly so, mentally—and latterly has lived in Swanton. He reached Swanton, then known as Centreville, on a memorable day in American history—that upon which Abraham Lincoln was assassinated, in 1865. At that time, there were only three houses in the place: that of "Joe" Miller, who owned practically all the land of present Swanton; a little shoe shop; and another small shanty. At that time, or rather in that year, and for many years afterwards, where now the town stands one would only see waving wheat. "Jeff" Lutz remembers that on the Fourth of July, 1870, binder contests were held on Miller's' land where Main street now is. Mr. Lutz was a man of remarkable energy, and his public work has been notable. He bought four hundred acres of land, for which he paid $2,000, and at that time much of it was actually under water, and there was only

a log cabin upon the land. One of his neighbors was General Brailey, who, he states, bought six hundred acres at only one dollar an acre. Lutz built a frame house in 1875, and lived on his farm until 1918, when he sold the 320 acres he then owned, and retired to Swanton. At one time he owned a thousand acres in the swamp, and he labored indefatigably to drain and ditch it. He is now probably the oldest resident in Swan Creek Township, and is the oldest Mason of the Swanton lodge, and also, probably, of the local lodge of Oddfellows. Mr. Lutz's public record includes forty years as member and president of the Swan Creek Township School Board, during which period twelve township schools were organized, a school being built for every four sections. One of his early associates was Mr. George Reighard, and Frank H. Reighard received his first appointment, as a school teacher, from Mr. Lutz. "Jeff" Lutz set to work with a will to remedy the natural disadvantages of his own land, and other land in Swan Creek Township. He did much ditching himself, and he probably was one of the petitioners, and prime movers, for every ditch and road project undertaken in the eastern part of that township. It is asserted that he built the first section of gravel road laid in the township, and throughout his connection with Swan Creek, he, and his wife, were earnest, unselfish and effective public workers. His wife was a woman of fine characteristics. She was known affectionately as "Aunt Jane," and in old days when ague and fever prostrated whole neighborhoods, she would go from house to house ministering to the sick, giving them not only medicinal treatment, but actually setting herself to the urgent domestic tasks of the stricken household, all of which she did out of the kindness of her heart. She manifested neighborly interest of the highest degree, and it is little wonder that she came to be known as the "Angel of Swan Creek." In the early years of their residence, she was a school teacher, and capable as such. Mr. and Mrs. Lutz had only one child. She, Mary Lucinda, died in early womanhood. Six of the brothers of "Jeff" Lutz were soldiers of the Union during the Civil War, and five of them marched with Sherman to the sea.

The Gingery family, father and sons, reclaimed more than three hundred acres of the swampy land of Swan Creek, and took part in public work.

William Geyser, who is known as "The Father of Swanton," died in Swanton in 1907. He was born in Germany, in 1840, and came with his mother to Lucas County, Ohio, in 1850. In 1862 he enlisted, and marched with Sherman to the sea. Later campaigning developed a hernia from which he suffered during the remainder of his life, although it did not prevent him from taking consequential part in industrial and public life. He was pensioned, and invalided, and "after his return from the war, he engaged in the grocery business in Swanton." It has been claimed that he "was the first merchant of Swanton, and shipped the first grain from this station." The first merchant, probably, was Joseph A. Miller, whom "Jeff" Lutz found, upon his arrival in 1865, to be the only merchant of Swanton, Miller's house then being, really, a store and boarding house. Undoubtedly, however, William Geyser was one of the pioneer and most successful and progressive merchants of Swanton. Later, he lost much money in a cold storage venture in Wauseon, but he had much part in the

building of Swanton. In 1887, he was, without solicitation, chosen to act as delegate at the senatorial convention, at Toledo, and there he was nominated for election to senatorial office, to represent the counties of Lucas, Wood, Hancock, Henry, and Fulton, in the republican interest. He and his colleague, William Carlin, of Findlay, were duly elected. He was mayor of the incorporated village of Swanton for a couple of terms, and was ever interested in the advancement of the village, it is therefore somewhat surprising to note that his name does not appear on the petition for incorporation of that place in 1882. He was thrice married, his third wife, Amy Haubell Geyser, dying in a New York City hospital in March, 1916. She was a school teacher at Delta prior to her marriage.

C. J. Brindley, A. Q. Price, the Pilliod brothers, and several other prominent residents of Swan Creek Township will have somewhat extensive biographical mention in the second volume of this work, and much more space cannot here be given to personal review, deserving though the pioneer records may be, and interesting and noteworthy as they undoubtedly are.

Martin Raker, Sr., must, however, have place among the pioneers whose lives will not be reviewed elsewhere. He was one of the settlers of 1835, or 1836, and the coming of the Rakers, husband, wife, and nine of their eleven children effected an appreciable addition to the Swan Creek settlement. The nine children were John, William, Jacob, George, Abram, Solomon, Catherine, Sarah and Christena. Martin, Jr., stayed in their former home in Fairfield County, Ohio, until 1846, but the descendants of Martin Raker, the pioneer, have had much part in Swan Creek Township affairs.

A. Holmes Smith, of Delta, who knew the Raker family well, and boarded with the pioneer, Martin Raker, Sr., when he taught the Raker school in 1851-1852, has given further data regarding that family. He states that Martin Raker, Sr., considered a tract of one hundred and sixty acres, on section 30, as his homestead farm. He owned in all several hundred acres, but lived on the 160 acre tract. Eventually, he gave his son, John 160 acres, Martin 120 acres, and Jacob 80 acres. Abraham lived at home until he married, then buying from William Meeker 30 or 40 acres that had originally been part of the Raker estate. Jacob eventually sold the eighty acre farm his father had given him, and bought 160 acres in York Township, on section 19. Martin Raker, Sr., as early as 1836 built a saw mill on the homestead farm, and it was operated almost until the year of his death, which occurred in, about 1865. And in 1853 he and William Meeker built a stone feed mill, which was operated until the year of the former's death. After William Meeker had sold his small tract to Martin Raker, Jr., he moved to where the Union Church now stands; and a little to the rear of the church William Meeker built a residence and also a cane mill, for making sorghum. He operated the mill for about a year, or so, his tragic death, in 1866 or 1867, bringing about its abandonment. William Meeker one day was caught by the sweep of his mill, and scalped, death being instantaneous.

The burial ground known as the Raker Cemetery was established in 1836, and stood upon the only rising ground in the neighborhood and for many miles west and south. It was the burial place of all the families of that part of Swan Creek, and by many of the families

of early York, most of the surrounding country for many miles being so wet as to be impossible locations for burial purposes. As the years passed and a church building was erected (that known as the Raker Union Church) near the cemetery, the subscribers to that church were in great measure drawn from the descendants of those pioneers buried in the Raker Cemetery, the people of the neighborhood of all denominations contributing to the cost of building.

Martin Raker, Sr., from his early years in Swan Creek was somewhat crippled, having a maimed left hand. How is became so maimed was narrated by Mr. Holmes Smith. It appears that one winter day he noticed the track of a bear. He called his sons, and his dogs, and they routed the bear out of its lair onto the ice. The dogs worried the bear, but Bruin locked his powerful arms around the best of Martin's dogs, and it seemed that it would crush the dog to death. It was more than Martin, Sr., could stand, and he rushed with his son, John, to the rescue. The father was badly mauled by the bear, and John

THRESHING MACHINERY IS ONE OF THE IMPORTANT MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES OF SWANTON.

slipped on the ice and broke his leg. Fortunately, Jake shot the bear, but the father's hand was more or less useless for the rest of his life, and John to the end of his days walked with a cane. Presumably, doctors were inaccessible in those early pioneer days, and John had to permit the leg to mend itself. The bone set crookedly, as was to be expected. Such were some of the handicaps of pioneer life.

John was a man of sterling qualities: progressive and hardworking. He eventually owned several hundred acres of rich farm land, and built a huge house—quite a mansion—having an almost baronial hall, and a massive black walnut staircase. The house was burned a few years ago. He was four times married, his third wife being Rachel Watkins of worthy pioneer stock. When she came with her parents into Fulton County they lived for forty days under the spreading branches of a giant oak, while a little land was being cleared and a log cabin built. John F., son of Martin, Jr., had a fine record in his home township.

He was one of the pioneer teachers of the township, and met his death suddenly a few years ago. He had that day gone into Delta to arrange for the drawing of a pension, as a Civil War veteran. He drove home in his car, and as he stepped out of it in his barnyard, he fell dead. Jacob, son of Martin, Jr., died last year, on part of the original Raker farm. He was a veteran of the Civil War also. Two of the boys of Jacob, Sr., son of Martin, Sr., were of Civil War record, as also were two of the sons of Martin, Jr. One died in service, the other was John F.

Mention must also be made of Uncle John Waggoner, who also was one of the good old pioneers of Swan Creek. The family still live in the vicinity in which their ancestor settled, and have taken stalwart part in the development of that part of the township. They have held to the soil, and been content to just go on working and building. So, has the present wealth of the county been slowly but surely builded. Simon, who is still alive, was a veteran of the Civil War, and has been one of the substantial citizens of the township. He was a member of the Board of Education for very many years, and still is justice of the peace. He also has been one of the strong basic pillars of the Shiloh Church since its establishment.

Township Records

Unfortunately, the trustee records for the earliest years are not available. All those of Swan Creek Township when it was part of Lucas County have either been destroyed, or mislaid; and the records have been preserved for only a few years of the early administration of Swan Creek of Fulton County. It is known that William Meeker was town clerk in 1839, and probably he held that office from the date of organization, in 1836. Nathaniel Leggett was town clerk in 1840. From that time to 1852, there is not information presently available.

At the annual election, which was held at the schoolhouse in District No. 10, on April 5, 1852, those elected to township office were: John W. Harter, Myron Williams, James T. Stall, trustees; S. H. Cately, assessor; Charles Cullen, treasurer; Samuel Johnson, clerk; John Browning and Charles Mead, constables; Alpheus Coss, Wells Watkins, Joshua Fassett, Jacob Roos (maybe Koos), Isaac Fewless, Harvey Mead, William Meeker, H. E. Waldron, and N. R. Wyman, supervisors.

The township taxation in 1852 was one mill, and the treasurer's statement for that year showed expenditures, for township purposes, of $68.68; also a Poor Fund of $60.57, with no expenditures. Another account, entitled "School Fund for the year 1852," showed appropriation of $219.83 6 mills for six school districts, that sum presumably being appropriation from county funds for school purposes.

Township order No. 1, dated April 16, 1852, was drawn in favor of Myron Williams. The amount was one dollar, "it being for services as trustee." Twp. Order No. 10 was for seventy-five cents, in favor of Joshua Fassett, "for services as supervisor," evidently the yearly stipend.

On March 6, 1854, the trustees ordered that the accounts of C. C. Allman ($1.88) and A. M. Carpenter ($6.00) for shroud and coffin

for Robert Trailor, be allowed and paid, the entry stating that "said Trailor is a person that came from the Juction (junction) into this town on a visit, and was taken sick, and died sudden."

An interesting entry in the trustees' minute book is that of April 3, 1854, recording an "Indenture of Apprenticeship, whereby Hiw (Hugh) Reighard, son of Jonathan Reighard, then recently deceased, was bound to Cyrus N. Earl, from November 18, 1854 until that date in 1867, when the boy would become of age, "to learn farming" at the end of which thirteen years of faithful service, Cyrus N. Earl bound himself to furnish "Hiw" with "a Bible and Hymn Book, and two common suits of clothes." Jonathan Reighard had had a hard struggle and had succumbed while still in the early pioneer effort, leaving his widow with her young children practically destitute. Other branches of the Reighard family were likewise poor, finding it hard to make headway, in their swampy surroundings. As a matter of fact, Hugh Reighard did not complete his apprenticeship. He was either released, or he went without permission when the outbreak of Civil War stirred his heart. He had a good record as a soldier of the Union; and the early poverty of the family was not such that any of the present generation might be ashamed. All the pioneers were poor; comparatively so, that is in currency. They were rich only in loved ones, in neighborly interest, and in determination to withstand privations in a desolate region until they had conquered the wilderness and the swamp.

Another entry in the trustees record states that, in June of 1858, "Mr. Libeys three children were sold to Mrs. Abigail Teachman, to board and cloth for one year, from the 16th day of June, 1858, for one hundred dollars."

On one of the last pages of the last of the early trustees' minute books still available is "A list of the Subscriptions to the Bounty Fund of Swan Creek Township Fund, 1864-65. John McLaughlin, Jonathan Houge, and Jacob Koos each contributed $200; M. P. Barber gave $100; Lorenzo Lewis, John Horton, Chas. Hoyt, A. J. Allman, and S. H. Cately, $50 each. Subscriptions in the amount of $25 came from John De La Mare, John Westbrook, George Westbrook, Thomas Waffle, Geo. H. Richardson, William Sheffield, Richard Terwilliger, Wm. L. Stall, E. Geer, Wm. Mack, Jr., David Woodring, H. E. Waldron, James Brice, Charles Blake, M. S. Pray, N. B. Harrison, David Geer, L. A. Bassett, and David Williams; while smaller amounts, $20, $15, $10, and in some cases less, were contributed by A. Cass (or Coss), Eccles Nay, R. Whitmore, John Hall, A. Warren, S. Immel, John Reid, Thomas Elton, C. Fox, Wm. Phare, Wm. Farren, Hiram Ransom, C. M. Keith, S. S. Barr, H. H. Reighard, James Watkins, Geo. Raker, A. Raker, B. Bixler, J. Hunt, O. H. P. Brailey, E. Moyer, David Swartz, Peter Jay, Ora Blake, G. W. Montgomery, Cain Woodring, and Wm. Templeton.

Covering the period, 1852-67, which are the only years for which township records of Swan Creek have been preserved, apart from the recent years, from 1913, the township officials were:

Trustees: J. W. Harter, in 1852; Myron Williams, 1852 and 1853; James T. Stall, 1852-53; Alex. Spaulding, 1853-57; Joel S. Richardson, 1854-57; Joshua Fassett, 1854, 1857; Nathan W. Pray, 1857; P. R. Lewis, 1855-56, and 1864; Oliver Brailey, 1858; L. A.

Bassett, 1858-59; Wm. Meeker, 1858; Wells Watkins, 1859, 1863, 1865 and 1866; M. B. Viers, 1859-60; S. L. Spencer, 1860-61; D. H. Bassett, 1860-61; Wm. Fullerton, 1861; Jacob Koos, 1862; Truman L. Curtis, 1862 and 1863; John De La Mare, 1862-63 and 1865-66; O. W. Parrish, 1864; George Richardson, 1864; Wm. Lewis, 1865-66; and in 1867 the trustees were James Cornell, Amos S. Cooper, and Wm. J. Lutz.

TREASURERS: Chas. Cullen, 1852; Andrew J. Allman, 1863-65; Jonathan Houge (or Hoag), 1865-67.

CLERKS: Samuel Johnson, 1852; L. Harter, 1853; S. H. Cately, 1853-55, and 1861-62, also 1866; 1856-60, J. Brewster; 1863, C. Fox; 1864, C. M. Keith; and 1867, J. W. Horton.

That is all the information that can be recorded from official records of township administration, apart from the seven years, from 1913, the records for which are now in the possession of the present township clerk, C. M. Stine, of Brailey. The present trustees of Swan Creek Township are Wilt Lemmon, George Haynes, and Dell Gill. L. C. Winzeler is treasurer.

Two of the first justices of the peace, elected after the establishment of Fulton county were Clayton Chamberlin, and William Meeker.

CIVIL WAR RECORD

The Civil War record of Swan Creek Township is a very creditable chapter in its history. Verity states that Swan Creek contributed one-third of its men to the Union Army, and added:

"Enlistment to most of them, especially those who had families, was peculiarly trying; for in the years of the Rebellion but few parts of Ohio could be found inhabited by poorer people. The Swan Creek volunteer went from a poor and often uninviting home, except for the loved ones left there, and from neighbors as poor as himself, and scarcely able, except by sore privation to themselves, to provide aid of any kind to those whom they would most gladly have helped and whom they often did assist, but out of no store of abundance."

The percentage of Swan Creek soldiers who became veterans was unusually high; and, alas, many did not live to see the war through to the final emancipation of the slave. As the result of their rigorous and sanguinary experiences, many of the boys who went away from Swan Creek homes strong and active returned to spend the remainder of their lives in a more or less physically maimed condition.

THE INCORPORATED VILLAGE OF SWANTON

The village of Swanton, which is partly in Fulton and partly in Swan Creek Township, is one of the promising incorporated places of Fulton county. It has some healthily growing manufacturing industries, and it would not be surprising if it developed much more rapidly than other villages of Fulton county. It is asserted that Swanton gained more in population during the decadal period, 1890-1900 than the whole of the other villages of the county, and in the last period, 1910-20, its increase was greater than any other place, excepting Wauseon, the county seat.

To review the history of Swanton is somewhat perplexing, for the reason that the location of the town has been changed more than once,

Theodore W. Knight, who writes the following historical sketch, of "Swanton, Ohio, in its Earlier Years," states in this connection that "Swanton was like the paddy flea; when you had your finger on it, it was not there, but moved." His article reads:

"Swanton of today is not the Swanton of the year of 1845, when it was almost a dense forest, with only here and there a lone white settler in his log cabin.

"This Swanton was like the paddy flea; when you had your finger on it, it was not there, but moved.

"At the time referred to, Swanton was located in Wayne Township, Lucas county, about three-quarters of a mile from the Fulton county line, with only a very few inhabitants. A log hotel, owned by a Mr. Kirkland, stood there. It was afterwards sold to B. T. Geer. Mr. David Mills built a double log building, and used it as a hotel. He was one of the earliest settlers, and held several offices in the township.

STREET SCENE, SWANTON.

"The inhabitants would go to Maumee, the nearest trading point, on horseback, with a sack or two of corn thrown across the saddle, to make the food supply.

"Swanton village was completed and so designated when it was given a postoffice; and as far as I can ascertain, Mr. Kirkland was the first postmaster.

"In about 1850, the building of the Plank Road was begun. It started from Maumee, and ran through Lucas county, into Fulton county, about eleven miles, stopping in the woods, about half-way between what is known as the towns of Delta and Wauseon.

"About that time a village began to grow, about a quarter-mile across the Fulton county line. It was called Centerville, and went by that name until it had outgrown the Swanton in Lucas county, and wanted a postoffice. Then, the name was changed, from Centerville to Swanton; and, to distinguish the two Swantons, the one in Lucas

county was called East Swanton, and that in Fulton county, West Swanton. Under the new change, James S. Showers, who was justice of the peace, had added to his name the dignity of postmaster. The mails at that time were carried by stage.

"This new Swanton (formerly Centerville) was situated on a four corners; on the northwest corner was a large frame hotel. I think Horatio Witt was connected with it, or built it. It contained a large dance hall, the largest in the county at that time; on the southeast corner was a blacksmith's shop, that of Alexander Spaulding; on the northeast corner, in later years A. J. Allman built a large dwelling; and at this time people continued to do the trading at Maumee, thirteen miles away, and at Toledo, then only a small town.

"In addition to the hotel at West Swanton, there were two hotels in East Swanton, in 1853, one owned by B. T. Geer, and the other by Wm. D. Herrick.

"A tollgate was situated about one and a half miles east of East Swanton, near the forks in the road from Maumee and Toledo. Abe Kaby, as we all called him, took the fees.

"During the period of 1852-55, the three hotels, within one and a half miles, did a thriving business, and sometimes would be unable to care for all the customers, without sending some to the neighbors. You could look east, or west, along the road, and see long strings of covered wagons, either going or coming, either emigrants going westward, or farmers from Williams county, hauling their grain, or sweet potatoes to Toledo. They would make the trip, or aimed to do so, in three days, and Swanton would be one of the nightly stops.

"Referring again to East Swanton early history. Among its early settlers were Erastus Brown, Dr. W. A. Scott. In, or about, 1865, W. D. Herrick gave up hotelkeeping, and built a store, stocking it with groceries and dry goods; and B. T. Geer left his hotel business to take up the practice of law. John Wales also had a blacksmith's shop there early.

"Today there is nothing left of the old town. Where its first log hotel stood, there is now a fine two-story brick school building, which is quite a conspicuous ornament, to mark the spot where once stood the first Swanton.

"Returning again to the history of West Swanton. It was thought, in 1853, that West Swanton might make a town of some business importance, as a railroad was laid out, graded, ties were strewn along the track, bridges were partly built, abutments across the Maumee River, between Perrysburg and Maumee; and it was expected that the railroad would be running, as far as Swanton, within six months; but at the same time the Lake Shore Railway was being built, and its construction was nearly as far advanced. In the early part of 1854, the Lake Shore and Michigan Southern Railway Company bought the controlling stock in the other road, stopped the work on the other road, upon which nothing was ever afterwards done. But the Lake Shore road was pushed through to completion."

The abandoned railroad project, of which Mr. Knight writes, was probably that which was started in 1846-47, seeking to carry through the construction of a railway from Cleveland, or Norwalk, running westward through Fulton county, and crossing the Maumee River at

the foot of the Rapids, and eventually establishing a connection with Chicago. It was known locally as the Junction Railroad, and some of its stock was purchased by Fulton county people. Further reference to this railway project will be found in Chapter IV, of this work.

Continuing Mr. Knight's sketch, he writes:

"In those early days, the country was settled, mostly, by a class of people who had little means, and very little after they had paid from three to five dollars an acre for a small piece of land. But game of all kinds was plentiful; there were plenty of fishes in the streams; and whisky was almost as plentiful as water.

"The Opening of the Temperance Hotel. Although no town would be without one hotel, there came a time when a town of the size of Swanton would not support more than one. In 1853, Wesley Knight bought the hotel at West Swanton. He bought it near the holidays, and word had gone out that he was to run a temperance hotel from the first of the year. Therefore, the laboring class then working on the railroad thought that they had better make the most of their last chance. So they celebrated Christmas Day riotously in the hotel. The Knight family arrived on Christmas Night, and found conditions in the hotel deplorable. The landlord and his wife both lay in a drunken stupor on the bed; the bar-room floor was covered with whisky, to a depth of one and a half inches, the barrel-bungs or taps having in some way come loose; and the stove was broken into many pieces. The Knight family made their beds on the floor of the sitting room, which was the only place that was anywhere near being decent; and their supper was made from the remains of their lunch. Next morning, Wesley Knight opened for business, and had with them that morning for breakfast, A. J. Allman, who for many years thereafter continued to board with them.

"Wesley Knight's temperance hotel gained a wide reputation: his open door was for very many years the stopping place for the weary traveler. He conducted the business for forty years.

"About 1856, J. B. Carr opened a dry goods store, but the town was not large enough for two stores, and Mr. Carr moved away. In 1863, Mr. A. J. Allman continuing in the dry goods business, was appointed postmaster, which office he held for a number of years. I can remember when the mails arrived, during the years of the Civil war. He would hold a handful of letters, and read aloud the names of those for whom there were letters; and many in those days were anxious waiters, hoping for news from their soldier boys.

"Many interesting incidents come back to the recollection, when recalling the names of some of the early citizens of this place. There were John Dixon, Horace Young, Wm. Stair, Harvey McCoy, David Mills, Richard Marsh, Ezra Willcox, and George Curtis. The last-named was not only one of the first settlers, but the most prosperous, having entered a half-section of land. He was the only moneyed man of the place: he would lend money to anyone who would be willing to pay his rate of interest. I own the safe he once had—the first safe that was ever brought to this place. He lost a good deal of money in the failure of Krouse's Bank, at Toledo. How much he lost, he did not even tell his family, and nobody ever knew.

"The First Mail Carrier. For some years after the Lake Shore

Railroad was put into operation, the mail was brought from the station to Swanton by Alpheus Seaton, who would stand on a frame built for the purpose, would hold the mail in both hands, and the route agent would catch the mail on his arm. No Twentieth Century trains in those days. You could ride on any train that came along. Dr. L. A. Bassett was postmaster at that time.

"The Village Church. The village church, the only church, was the Methodist Episcopal. It was built in about 1863, and situated just west of the village.

"Swanton School. The school building was located just west of the church, a one-story frame structure. Miss Betsey Ann Geer was the teacher for a number of terms.

"In the year 1857, or near that time, James Cornell moved into the place from the state of Texas. He was a good church-worker, and was the first to establish a Sunday school in the village. Mr. Wells Watkins was also a live-wire in Sunday school and church work. He was quite a hunter, a good marksman, and used to the forest, being an early settler. He was president of the pioneer's picnic, and was very popular.

"Grandpa John Templeton. I must not forget Grandpa John Templeton, as we always called him. He raised a large family of boys and girls who were stout and hardy, but never could equal him. John Templeton at one time weighed about four hundred pounds, and was president of the Fat Men's Convention for several years.

"Industrial History. In the history of the business of West Swanton, A. J. Allman was the principal business man in merchandise, and was connected with Cullen and Clark, in the business of making Potash. The ashery was cared for by Israel Gamble, and netted them a good income.

"John Dixon and McGarvey were dealers in lumber. Later, McGarvey dealt in wool, owning a carding machine.

"There was no other industry, excepting the brick and tile factory of Thomas Farthing, and one run by Newton Curtis. Much of the brick they made is still in Swanton buildings.

"In the year 1870, or thereabouts, Mr. Allman moved his store to Delta, and lived there for several years, later going into business in Toledo. There being no store left in Swanton, Knight and Grandy opened a grocery store, and finally branched out into dry goods. After a term of successful business, Mr. Ed. Brailey bought Mr. Knight's interest, the latter becoming a school teacher, and continuing as such for seventeen years.

"Swanton's Last Move. The time came when Swanton must move. This time, if Paddy got his finger on it, it was there. From now on, all that is written of Swanton is of that place in its present location. There is nothing now left of West Swanton but a few residences, and a small grocery and oil station.

"Origin of Swanton. This new Swanton is sometimes termed: 'The Center of the Universe,' having grown from a railway station, or woodhouse. The woodhouse was about one hundred feet long, with a water tank in the centre, and a room about twelve feet square under it for the Ladies' and Gents' Waiting Room, with a board bench. ready for cushion seats. When passengers were too thick, there was plenty of room out-of-doors.

"After several years, the railway company built a one-room Depot, and moved the old woodshed across the track for a freight house. However, the depot became too small before many years had passed, and the depot building now used was erected. Mr. J. H. Miller was the first agent. Following him came Mr. Beard; then Mr. Brady. Some years later, Jacob Gehring became agent. He was killed at his post. Mr. John Eva, the present agent, succeeded him.

"Growth Checked. This Swanton remained a dead town for several years. Mr. J. H. Miller owned all the land on one side of the railroad, and George Curtis on the other. They would not sell a lot, and the place grew only so fast as they saw fit to put up a building. Mr. Miller built a residence with a store-room in front, but times demanded more than that. At that time Mr. Miller would buy wood ties and stave bolts, at his own price, the seller taking goods from the store in exchange. Miller would sell the wood ties to the railway company, and would ship the bolts, thus making a round profit.

"Petersburgh. Peter Miller, a well-to-do farmer, and as fine a man as I ever met, was then living about half a mile from the depot. He saw the need of the town, and laid out several acres, selling the lots at a reasonable price. Soon, he had brought into being quite a fast-growing little town, in which was a large store. They called the place Petersburgh.

"Swanton Spurts. The threat that the landowners of Swanton saw in the development of Petersburgh soon caused them to adopt a new policy. Both Miller and Curtis began to sell lots, and the boom developed at the natural place, which was Swanton, because of its railroad facilities. Petersburgh then began to decline.

"Mr. Wm. Geyser saw that there was a good opening at Swanton, and opened a grocery in a small building, adding dry goods in course of time. He did good business, and was eventually forced to build larger quarters. He was enterprising, and held practically all the trade of the town. He built a large brick building, that now owned by F. J. Curtis.

"On the corner now known as Main and Mill Street, a Mr. Culver put up a frame building for a hotel, and between Culver's Hotel and the store of Mr. Geyser were small buildings occupied by various people. They were destroyed by fire. About that time Dewey Haskins and Knight moved a stave and oval dish factory here, and J. E. Hall started a lumber mill, and sash and door factory. He was one of makers of Swanton. The large store building of Miller and Knight the makers of Swanton. The large store building of Miller was stocked with groceries and dry goods by Haskins, Dewey and Knight, and they conducted that business, with their factory for about three years.

"Removal of Postoffice. The enterprise of the new town demanded postal facilities, and it did not require much argument to bring about the removal of the Swanton postoffice from the old town. Mr. Richard Marsh was the postmaster at that time, and with declining years, a change seemed necessary. He was succeeded by T. W. Knight, who held the office for about six years—until there was a change of administration.

"After the postoffice was removed, Bradley and Grandy built a

store building on the south side of the railroad, and moved their stock from the old town. Two or three years later, this building was burned to the ground, but another was quickly erected. It was at one time occupied by R. S. Clegg, furniture dealer and undertaker. He was succeeded by R. S. Fenton, who bought the property and stock, and after several years sold the business to C. J. Brindley, who still owns and conducts the business.

"The postoffice was located in a large store room, built by Mr. Francis Curtis on the corner of Main and Chestnut. He conducted a grocery business there at the same time. When Mr. Knight was appointed postmaster, he moved the office across the street to more suitable quartes, putting up a new building with larger quarters, and new fixtures; and the postoffice at that time was equal to any in the county. When his term as postmaster had ended, he sold his outfit. It was moved to Edgerton, Ohio, where it was used for a number of years. B. V. Ludlon succeeded Theodore Knight as postmaster at Swanton.

"The Veteran Telegraph Operator. I must not forget our old friend, Frank Minnich, the veteran telegraph operator, who served the L. S. and M. S. R. R. Co. for the greater part of his life, always faithful to the click of the instrument, and never the cause of an accident. Of late years he has enjoyed a well-deserved pension. We see him still on the streets, but he begins to show the effect of declining years.

"Grist Mill. The grist mill at Swanton was built shortly after Dewey, Haskins and Knight left the town. A great part of the structure was furnished by subscription; some donated material; others labor. Mr. J. H. Miller was a good canvasser; he succeeded in getting a subscription from almost everyone he asked, for he would not take no for an answer.

"School. At one time there was no school in Swanton, and the children had to go to one of the two district schools which stood about a mile distant from the village on each side, one being in Fulton Township, and the other in Swan Creek. It was far to send small children, and eventually a small two-room two-story frame building was put up in Swanton; and when that became too small, as it soon did, a brick addition was put on, making four rooms. One evening the cry of "Fire" was given. It was the school building. It was burned to the ground. The property was insured, but not at its full value. For the remainder of the year the school was held in churches and halls, while the board considered ways and means. They issued bonds, and let a contract for a new building which was to cost $35,000. At the time it was built it was the best in the county, and it still marks the enterprise of the town.

"Church. The only church in the town was the Methodist Episcopal, which also was moved from West Swanton, and placed on the corner of Main and St. Clair. It was thought that we needed a new church, and the Rev. N. D. Baumgardner lost no time in securing the subscription for a new building, to the amount of $5,000. This church was also burned down, but in less than a year another was built. At present Swanton has four churches.

The A. D. Baker Company's machine shops at Swanton, after three minutes of tornado, 1920.

"Incorporation. The village was made a town in the '80s, with Dr. L. A. Bassett the first mayor.

"The Baker Plant. The most important event in the history of the new town was the construction of the A. D. Baker plant. Mr. A. D. Baker started as a boy of sixteen to work at ingenious inventions of mechanical nature, and had a shop about half a mile from town. From that small shop has grown his present factory which now covers ten acres, manufacturing the celebrated Baker threshing machines, and engines; also the Baker valve gear, used on locomotive engines all over the United States. Normally, the plant employs a large force of machinists, but at the time of writing, it had not yet recovered from the almost total destruction of their plant by the terrible tornado that passed over the town and neighborhood on Palm Sunday, March 28, 1920. Damage to the extent of about $60,000 was done to this plant, but rebuilding is rapidly proceeding, and business has to some extent continued, notwithstanding the collapsed walls.

"The Tornado of 1920. The town was also badly damaged. Business places were unroofed, and partly destroyed; dwellings were blown to pieces, or turned over. However, Swanton is still there.

"Much more might be said about this last Swanton, if space would permit. We have electric lights, and nearly two miles of paved streets."

Theodore W. Knight, himself, has had a good part in the building of Swanton, and is now its oldest, and one of its most respected residents.

Petition for Incorporation

The petition praying for the incorporation of the village of Swanton bears the date of June 17, 1882. The signers were:

L. D. Boyer, Frank Houseman. A. Q. Price, Irvin Wimple, C. J. McBride, Frank Hough, John Q. Files, Charles Hilton, Gust. Estell, A. L. Newton, Wm. Hogue, G. A. Dull, N. B. Eddy, Wm. Buffington, S. C. Lester, M. Hanley, John Ruhland, Samuel Hall, J. E. Beard, Jos. Raab, G. W. Sly, G. B. Raab, J. F. Minnich, S. Merrill, S. F. Cosgrove, Wm. Nicodemus, R. S. Clegg, T. W. Knight, J. T. White, W. I. Holcomb, Chas. Schlatter, A. A. Reid, David Richardson, Harrison Hamp, Frank White, Wm. Brown, S. Roscoe, Joseph Schrack, E. F. Gibbs, J. F. McBride, Lewis Odell, John Ludenmonski, Wm. Hamp, Abraham Huftile, W. Metz, C. E. Marsh, James Howard, Chas, Brenner, S. R. Finch, L. A. Bassett, James H. Berry, W. H. Hardy. C. Cammet, J. P. Miller, F. M. Dennis, Adam Weigel, D. C. Deek, H. R. Steele, I. W. Wales (or J. W.), E. T. Wales, John Westbrook, Chas. Fels, George Burrell, E. W. Schrack, H. Hill, James Smith, J. M. Curtis, Lyman Northrop, D. E. Swank, David Huyck, Jay E. Hall, W. P. Soule, D. E. Strayor, J. W. Minnich, N. E. Dennis, L. C. Berry, T. G. Cain, J. Smith, and F. P. Huyck.

In all probability the petition was duly filed, but it is marked as having been recorded on February 19, 1883. Meanwhile, there undoubtedly had been divided feeling as to the need for incorporation, for two remonstrances were filed with the county authorities, the first on November 8, 1882, and the other on the 17th of the same month. About twenty-five signatures were put to these remonstrances, evidently

a minority of the residents, so that corporate powers were granted to the village, and an election ordered to be held in April, 1883, when Dr. L. A. Bassett was obligated to the mayoral chair, and A. Q. Price became treasurer. The mayoral succession is as follows: L. A. Bassett, 1883-86; John Q. Files, 1887-88; A. Pilliod, 1889; W. A. Scott, Jr., 1890-92; G. W. Humphrey, 1893-96; A. B. Lathrop, 1897-98; Geo. W. Humphrey, 1899; J. B. Templeton, 1900; Wm. Geyser, 1901-02; Fred Helfrich, 1903-04; Samuel Odell, 1905-08; L. C. Cosgrove, 1909-13; S. L. Wentz, 1914; O. W. Curtis, 1915-17; J. E. Robasser, 1918; L. R. Baker, 1919-20.

The present municipal administration is constituted as follows: L. R. Baker, mayor; Cass Cullis, clerk; Chas. Witmer, Charles Neis, John Fels, Will Weir, and C. E. Brindley, councilmen; G. R. Ackerman, treasurer.

Fire Company

The first meeting of citizens of Swanton interested in the organization of a volunteer fire company was held in the Curtis Building, on February 20, 1895. Organization was effected at that meeting. The charter members and officers appointed were: F. E. Pilliod, chief; C. E. Marsh, assistant chief; B. F. Mills, foreman; Theo. Little, first nozzleman; A. F. Coon, second; Frank Aldrich, A. F. Coon, T. F. Deck, Harry Frogley, R. W. Fenton, Wm. Fleming, Henry Geer, W. W. Geer, Al. Gilmore, J. E. Hall, Frank Hill, Wm. Hill, E. J. Kline, Theo. Little, L. W. Metz, B. F. Mills, Jas. Moore, Dell Northrop, F. E. Pilliod, L. N. Pilliod, S. Ribble, W. A. Scott, Jr., Geo. Stout, Wm. Saulsbury, and J. B. Templeton.

Swanton had some disastrous fires in its history; that of Tuesday, January 23, 1912, when many of the buildings on Main Street were destroyed entailed a loss of more than $40,000.

The Tornado of 1920

The greatest disaster that Swanton, and Swan Creek Township, have had to suffer came with the passing of a tornado through the neighborhood on Palm Sunday, March 28, 1920. The local paper well describes the visitation, stating that:

"The storm struck this county about two miles east of Naomi, on the county line, destroying Arthur Tabor's house and barn, and the the new Tilse residence and barn near it. The Tabor home is a complete wreck. The family was in it at the time, and how they escaped with their lives none can tell.....Will Ondorff's barn in the same vicinity was blown down, and one horse was killed.

"Rural Mail Carrier Percy Stites, who travels this section, states that he counted twenty-four barns on his route that had been blown down.

"From this point the storm traveled in almost a straight line to Swanton, passing about three miles south of Delta, and a mile north of Brailey. The large barn of the Enos Rupp farm south of Delta was blown down, and two cows were killed.

"Mrs. Johnson, an aged widow, living alone on her farm in Swan Creek Township, had her home blown from over her head, her farm

ODDFELLOWS HALL, SWANTON, DAMAGED BY TORNADO 1920

buildings all destroyed, and she escaped uninjured. When the storm struck the home the windows crashed in, and she braced herself against the door, to hold it shut. After the storm had subsided she found the top part of her house was gone, the walls bulged in, and the interior of her home a wreck. Although nearly eighty years old, she was not injured. She knew where she kept her lantern, found it, lighted it, and stopped an automobile that was passing, and had them take her to Delta.

"The great machine shop of A. D. Baker Company, in Swanton, was blown down, causing thousands of dollars of damage to the machinery. The great separator storage sheds of the same company were blown down.

"The flouring mill and elevator was badly damaged, although not blown down.

"The front of the cement block garage, on South Main Street, was blown in, and many automobiles stored there damaged.

"The roof and upper stories of the tall business block on Main Street, between the T. & I. and New York Central Railroad tracks was blown away, while across the street the front of the opera house block was blown in. Not a business block in Swanton but suffered damage, and in many cases destroyed the upper stories.

"The beautiful homes on North Main Street were largely wrecks—roofs torn off, porches gone, one end, or corner of a building torn away. This street has been one of the beauty spots of the country. The residence of Dr. and Mrs. F. W. Stine was partially destroyed, while the office and garage of Dr. Odell was practically wrecked, and one-half of the roof of his house carried away. Not a dozen residences in the entire city escaped injury.

"The windows of the Methodist Church were blown in, and the Catholic Church was badly damaged. The public school building stood the storm, though the windows and roof were damaged.

"With a dozen more residences entirely destroyed, and the great damage done to others; with business blocks and manufacturing plants wrecked, not a person in Swanton lost his life, and only four were slightly injured.

"From Swanton the storm continued its northwesterly course to Sylvania, almost sweeping away the little town of Raab, some eight miles northeast of Swanton, about three miles into Lucas county..... Four residents of that place were killed and some ten others injured."

The tornado was an appalling calamity to many in Swan Creek Township. In many cases barns which a few minutes before had stood house-high collapsed like a house of cards, and lay in many cases, like carelessly piled waste stacks of lumber, some of them not a yard high. It was truly appalling. Yet, the people of Fulton county of today have much of the sterling qualities of their pioneer ancestors. The old widow "felt that soon matters would right themselves"; and the people of Swanton evidently meant to set about righting matters without more ado. The local paper stated:

"The same undaunted progressive spirit that made Swanton one of the foremost manufacturing centers in the county is at work to rebuild it. The next day after the terrible catastrophe that befell this prosperous city, workmen were clearing away the wreckage for the

building of a new Swanton. While it is a great loss to the town and community, the citizens are left determined and not discouraged, and will soon change the wreckage and devastation into prosperity and happiness."

The people of the county, in general, rallied to the aid of the unfortunate. The Delta paper of that week stated that "Delta business men divided into three squads drove over the storm-swept country Monday, and made a survey of the losses and actual needs of the farms and farmers." In some cases money was promised, but the most appreciated help was in man-power. The Fayette paper stated that:

"Something like a hundred men from Fayette and surrounding farms went to Swanton (on Wednesday) to aid the victims of the big wind storm in setting their places to rights. Not only from this section, but from other parts of the county were men there, and our people went to one farm, cleared away the debris, piled up the wind-blown trees and shrubs, and set fire to them; collected the barn and other timbers; and then on to another place to do the same. They kept it up all day."

The local Red Cross bodies were prompt in offering financial aid. Wauseon and Delta societies within a day or so of the storm, offered to contribute $500 each, "and more if needed," and Bryan Red Cross Chapter sent a cheque for $400. From a reading of all the reports, one is forced to the realization that the people of Fulton county of today are just as much "one family as they were in pioneer days, when all neighbors would set aside their own work to help a newcomer to raise a log cabin, or as, in a somewhat later day, they gathered for a barn raising.

Swanton Forty Years Ago

Mrs. A. Q. Price, who was married to Mr. Quill Price in 1877, and then came to Swanton, where they have ever since resided, read a paper entitled: "Swanton Forty Years Ago," at a meeting of the Progress Club, in 1917. It contains many interesting items of local history, and parts of it could appropriately be given place here. In part, the paper read:

"It (Mr. Price's drug store) was a small frame building, standing where the bank now is, a large maple tree in front, board sidewalk, and sand ankle-deep in the street. The population of Swanton at that time was 175. They supported a night-watch at that time, Wm. Buffington, mostly for intoxicates, and the caliboose, surely not for joy-riders and hold-up men. At that time houses were scarce, so we boarded across the street, at the Miller House, which is now Fleming's grocery.....

"On my First evening in Swanton, after arriving on the plug train, as at that time there was only one track.....I went over to our store after supper. Old Dr. Cosgrove was the first man I met. The next was an old resident who had visited the tavern, where the Pilliod block now stands, and he was feeling in quite a fighting mood.....

"When Mr. Price took charge of the store, a little boy about sixteen, by the name of Charlie, wanted to learn to be a druggist, or how to

roll pills.....He trudged from his home a mile north of town every morning with his dinner pail.....You will still find him at the old stand, filling prescriptions.

"This was a hard town, but soon improved as it increased in population. Of course I got very lonely. The Millers were very kind to me. Mrs. Sanderson, Mrs. Jas. White, and Miss Olive were the daughters at this home.....Of course, Mr. Sanderson boarded there, and later became one of the family.

"A building stood next to the Miller House on the north, occupied in the front by Dr. Bassett. Mr. and Mrs. C. J. Brindley lived upstairs. .....Mr. Brindley and Mr. Geyser kept the store now occupied by F. J. Curtis.

"Church. The M. E. Church was a frame building on the lot where Bob Fenton's house now stands on Main Street, next to the garage. They had a new organ, and a number of the members of the church were going to leave on account of it. They had no one to play it, so Mr. Price told Mrs. Boyer his wife could play it. Of course I could for him, for he didn't know one tune from another, but Mr. Boyer asked me, so I could not refuse. We had a large choir, Mrs. Anna Houseman, leading soprano, Mr. Boyer and Ed. Wilcox basses. Mr. Boyer would tell me the key the piece was written in, and I would play. No one knew the difference then, but I am afraid the music would be criticized now.

"Ticket Agent. A family by the name of Eddy moved here, as he was the new ticket agent at the depot. Their daughter, Carrie, could play, so I then went into the choir.....Altogether I was in the choir for thirty years.

"The Depot. The depot was the building now used as the freight depot, and was north of its present location. At that time this building was kept full of wood for shipping. Nothing but woods could be seen along the track, as far as the eye could reach. N. D. Berry had the contract for pumping water, to keep the tank filled, to fill the engines. He had a blind horse to do the pumping.

"The postoffice was where the Plummer Barber Shop is now. Richard Marsh, quite an old man for the position, was then postmaster.

"South of the Railroad. The only houses on the south of the railroad was: the house of Ed. Brindley, then owned by a family by the name of Gibbs; Fred Harrington, Mr. Knight, Jas. Fenton, and Houseman houses, and store where L. Reed lives. The house on Chestnut Street, where Mr. and Mrs. Myers live was our first home.

"Incorporation. In 1882 Swanton was incorporated. The first .....clerk (was) C. E. Marsh. The only enterprise of interest was a stave factory, located opposite the grist mill, on the railroad ground. The factory was managed by men from Blissfield, Lane Smith and Haskins. Mr. Haskins ran a general store in the building now used by the T. & I. Depot, which was then on Main Street. Over this was a room they called Miller's Hall, where they held dancing parties. On December 23d they held a party, at which Geer's Band played. C. J. Brindley and C. C. Marsh were floor managers, and the supper and dance cost $1.50.

"North Side. The north side had very few houses, mostly on Main Street. Dr. Lathrop's double house was where his home now

stands. Where the M. E. Church now stands was then a pasture for cows.

"The Pioneer Bank. In 1893, the drug business increased as the town grew. Mr. Price then built and moved to the present location. Then the town could support a bank, and he and his daughter, Laura, did banking business on a small scale. As the years rolled by it increased; then a company was formed, with Mr. Price president. James Grove, A. B. Lathrop, and T. Stevens, of Toledo, were directors. A new building was built, which is still occupied for the same purpose, in the old drug store lot."

Schools

Much of the early school history of Swan Creek Township is told elsewhere. For District No. 1, a frame schoolhouse, probably the first frame schoolhouse in the county, was built in 1839, at a cost of $175.00. In all probability, it was preceded by a log house, such as was the case in the organization of most of the pioneer school districts. A meeting was held in School District No. 1, in September, 1839, in the home of Luther Dodge, to consider ways and means for erecting a frame schoolhouse. Contract was let to James Dean, who undertook to build it for $175. Luther Dodge was district clerk, and David Mills, Robert Fullerton, Luther Dodge, and James Egnew were directors, reads an original document. It appears that Persis Scott received $18 for the first term of teaching, and that in September, 1841, James Egnew, George Curtis, and Thomas S. Sabin were chosen directors. In May, 1844, the directors hired Ruthett Deblin to teach school at $1.50 per week, and the directors at that time were George Curtis, Charles Fairchilds, Reuben Hastings, W. D. Herrick, and Chester Scott. Early teachers were Samuel Durgin, Caroline Wood, Moses Curtis, D. Allen, Lemuel Johnson, M. McCoy, Wm. Lewis, Hartley Clute, M. S. Merrill, and Mary Barrett. Average daily attendance twenty-two males and fifteen females. Branches taught: reading, writing, arithmetic, grammar, geography.

In the '50s there were, apparently ten school districts in Swan Creek, for the election of April, 1852, was held in the schoolhouse of District No. 10. There is, however, data regarding only six of the schools of that time. The registers showed that in 1852 (the winter term), there were 55 scholars in District No. 1; 97 in No. 2; 35 in No. 3; 48 in No. 4; 29 in No. 5; and 25 scholars in No. 6 district. Nathaniel Leggett was appointed school director of District No. 5, in February, 1853.

One of those schoolhouses was probably that at which A. Holmes Smith, of Delta, taught in 1852. He says that he taught in the Raker School, in Swan Creek Township, in that year, saying that it was a log house situated almost on the line of York and Swan Creek townships, and that he had 45 or 50 pupils, among them the father of Frank H. Reighard, George Reighard, and his brother and sister; the children of three branches of the Raker family; some from the Hampton and McLaughlin families; and the four children of Widow Sally Reighard, Hugh, John, Josh, and Sol, two of whom were cripples. (Two of these boys later saw service in the Civil War).

The most active period in school organization in Swan Creek Town-

ship was, probably, from '65 to '85, and two of the most active in school administration were Wm. Jefferson Lutz, and A. Q. Price. They planted schoolhouses on every four sections. Mr. Lutz was identified with the School Board of Swan Creek for forty years, being president for the greater part of that time; and the school history of Swan Creek Township would not be complete unless some reference were made to Jonathan Hunt, for long a teacher, and one of the most advanced teachers of his time.

In 1887, there were thirteen schoolhouses, brick or frame, in Swan Creek, and the average yearly attendance was about three hundred pupils. The township schools of today number eleven, to which go about three hundred pupils for a school term of thirty-two weeks. The school property is valued at $7,800. The township school board is made up as follows: R. B. Bloomer, president; C. M. Stine, clerk; Arthur Gingery, H. O. Wales, Dell Gill, and Sam Zimmerman, directors.

PUBLIC SCHOOL, SWANTON.

Swanton is a separate school district, and has a fine school, which was built in 1904, at a cost of $30,000 to $35,000, and now attended by about three hundred scholars of elementary grades and by eighty high school students. More has been hereinbefore written regarding this school. The members of the present board are named in the Fulton Township chapter.

CHURCH HISTORY

The first church society in the township was probably that of the Methodist Episcopal denomination, which is very strong in the township. The Centerville church was probably the first. It has been referred to by Mr. Knight, in his article, earlier in this chapter.

There was early a Union church in the northwestern part of the township, later known as the Viers church. Then, in the western part of the township, a church built by the inhabitants of that part

for the general use of all denominations was known as the Raker Union Church. It was dedicated in 1881. In 1886, the United Brethren Society purchased the school building, known as the Union Schoolhouse, on section 31, and adapted it to their needs as a place of worship.

At present there are four churches in Swanton, the Methodist Episcopal, the Catholic, the Missionary, and the Missionary Alliance. The Missionary church is now in the charge of the Rev. E. F. Clauser, and the Missionary Alliance, or Christian Alliance, Church, which was dedicated in 1891, is ministered to by Rev. P. W. Munroe.

The Methodist Episcopal Church was established at Centerville, as has been stated, probably seventy-five years ago. One of the first pastors was Richard Wallace, and Newton Curtis was among the pioneer members. Forty-three years ago, the church building was moved to Swanton, and located on the south side of Main Street. The pastor at that time was the Rev. James Houghtby (or Houghton). Thirty-five years ago a brick church was built, on North Main Street, Rev. B. N. Boardman being pastor. Six years later it was burned to the ground. Rev. M. D. Baumgardner brought about a quick rebuilding, at a cost of $10,000. Ten years ago, when C. N. Davenport was pastor, an addition made to it cost $3,500. The Reverend Davenport, fifteen years ago, built a parsonage at cost of $3,500. Damage to that amount was done to the church building by the recent tornado, the damage being covered by insurance. Rev. Frank Hook is present pastor.

St. Richard's Catholic Church of Swanton has been supplied by its present pastor, the Rev. Father McFadden, who writes:

"St. Richard's Catholic Church in the thriving village of Swanton owes its origin to six families of the Catholic faith, who located in Swanton during the '80s. Their spiritual interests were attended to by the priest who had been assigned to the pastoral charge of St. Mary's Parish, Caragher, whither they journeyed for religious services till the year 1890. In this year a petition was forwarded by them to the Catholic Bishop of Cleveland, Rt. Rev. Richard Gilmour..... and.....supported by .....the Rev. Thomas F. McGuire .....Swanton was recognized.

"The present church structure was begun under.....the Rev. Thomas F. McGuire, pastor of St. Mary's Church, Caragher. .....In January, 1892, St. Richard's Church at Swanton was dedicated to its sacred purposes by Bishop Gilmour's successor in the Episcopal See of Cleveland, the Philadelphia, Ignatius Hortsmann....

"The church was erected on three lots, fronting on Dodge Street; these lots, as well as two acres close by on Dodge Street, later consecrated for burial purposes, were purchased by the congregation, and deeded to the Bishop of the diocese, who holds the property in fee simple. Around this time, the Rev. John A. Schaffeld succeeded Father McGuire.....and the decoration of the church continued with unabated vigor.....to completion. Solemn services were held in it for the first time, by the Rev. John A. Schaffeld, on May 7, 1893. Father Fahey was appointed at this time to succeed Rev. John A. Schaffeld.....This was his first charge. He found the church at Swanton inadequate for the needs of the young

congregation.....(and) set about enlarging the edifice, and in the fall of 1900 completed the work at considerable expense. His removal soon followed.....Rev. Wm. S. Ogle became the new pastor, and unprecedented activity marked his stay. Swanton still lacked a resident pastor, and Father Ogle set himself to the task of providing a parochial residence for the future pastor. Additional land was purchased, and a handsome and substantial building erected, at the corner of Walnut and Clay streets. The division of the Cleveland diocese had taken place in the meantime, and Bishop Joseph Schrembs, the first Bishop of Toledo, assigned the Rev. John Berthelot to Swanton, as its first resident pastor.....St. Caspar's, Wauseon, was now assigned to Swanton, as a mission. In a short time, the Rev. John A. Kiebel became the successor of Father Berthelot. The church was again remodeled and considerably enlarged. Scarcely had the work been finished, when the Rev. James Spaulding Elder was named Father Kiebel's successor. The Rev. Thomas A. Kennedy replaced Father Elder as pastor on August 17, 1916, and was succeeded by the Rev. Father Michael A. McFadden, June 10, 1918. The Swanton church has since become self-sustaining, St. Caspar's, Wauseon, having been given parochial status by episcopal ordinance of October 28, 1919.

"On Palm Sunday, March 28, 1920, St. Richard's Church at Swanton, the result of the labors of several successive pastors, was well-nigh demolished by a terrific cyclone. The cyclone struck the church during evening service, at 7:55 P. M., and lasted about three minutes. Large stained-glass windows were sent flying through the assembled worshippers, furnace chimneys came crashing through the roof; laths and plastering covered the seats; hail as large as apples fell all round; lightning flashed viciously; rain and darkness intensified human fright; and the church wrenched and twisted, yet remained standing, but wrecked. Joseph Huber, Jr., architect, Toledo, was soon afterwards entrusted with the reconstruction of the church. Bishop Schrembs, of Toledo, visited the stricken parish, and wrote: 'No words of mine could possibly describe the scenes of terror and destruction wrought by the storm. Over twenty of the most substantial families of this once-happy settlement lost everything—homes, barns, and cattle.' "

It is an experience through which the church, in common with other departments of the community, has successfully passed. Father McFadden has had good success in Swanton, in earnest work.

Population

The population of Swan Creek Township can be given for the decadal periods from 1870. It then had a population of 1,100 persons; in 1880, the inhabitants numbered 1,526; in 1890, 1,791; in 1900, 2,303; in 1910, 2,415, and in 1920, 2,356. These figures include the population of that part of Swanton which is in Swan Creek Township; and although the population of the township has decreased during the last ten years, the population of Swanton has shown an encouraging growth. The statistics for Swanton has been given in the Fulton Township chapter.

The 1920 figures are subject to correction, being the "Preliminary Announcement of Population" issued from the Bureau of the Census before the recount.

CHAPTER XXIII

THE BENCH AND BAR OF FULTON COUNTY

Much has been written into an earlier chapter regarding the establishment of courts of justice in Fulton county, after it was erected in 1850; and in the township and county chapters will be found biographical reviews of those of its residents who were prominent members of the profession of law, and are now deceased. Also extensive reference has been given, in the biographical volume of this work, to the careers of prominent present members of the legal fraternity of Fulton county. Therefore, the useful purpose of this chapter lies more in the supplying of statistical data than in the furnishing of biographical or formative record; and such a plan is dictated, particularly, by limitations of space.

Section six of the act by which Fulton county was erected in 1850 provided for the attachment of Fulton County to the Thirteenth Judicial District of the State of Ohio, and ordered "the Court of Common Pleas and Supreme Court of the county of Fulton shall be holden in the township of Pike until the permanent seat of justice shall be established within and for the said county." In pursuance of this, and by virtue of his power under the state constitution then in effect, the governor of the state named three residents of Fulton county for appointment to associate judgeships of the Common Pleas Court of Fulton County. It is believed that the men named were: Nathaniel Leggett, of Swan Creek Township; John Kendall, of Franklin Township; and A. C. Hough, of Chesterfield Township. However, Nathaniel Leggett had been nominated almost simultaneously for county office also, and he preferred to stand for election to the office of county treasurer than to accept the proffered appointment to the judiciary; consequently another resident was named by the governor to complete the required number of associate judges. Who the appointee was is not clear in available records. These conflicting records are embodied in Chapter IV of this volume, and they indicate that the man appointed was either S. H. Cately, of Swan Creek, or William E. Parmelee. However, it may be stated, with some confidence, that not one of the men originally appointed by the governor sat in the first session of the Common Pleas Court of the new county. It seems clear that those who were associates of Judge Saddler, in the first term of court were S. H. Cately, William Parmelee, and Abraham Flickinger. Possibly Dr. Kendall joined Nathaniel Leggett, in declining the appointment offered by the governor, their places being taken by S. H. Cately and Wm. E. Parmelee, though not necessarily respectively; and that Abraham E. Flickinger was appointed in place of A. C. Hough, who resigned the judgeship, evidently, before the holding of the first session of court. County records show that Mr. Hough was a candidate for election, and was duly elected to the office

of auditor of Fulton county, in October, 1850; and presumably he resigned his judicial appointment either before, or soon after, that election. Other records point to the fact that the first session of court in the new county was not held until the fall of 1850.

That session was held in the log house of Robert A. Howard, in Pike Township, as has been graphically described elsewhere herein. It is noteworthy mainly because it was the original session. As a matter of fact, very little of importance came before that court. Verity states that "there was little or no business transacted at this court," adding that "in lieu of business, those attending indulged in a game of ball." However, the court organization was then completed, Samuel Durgin being appointed clerk, and J. H. Read, prosecuting attorney. The sheriff was George W. Brown, but it seems that he was not appointed, and had been elected sheriff in the elections of April and October, 1850.

To decide where to place the permanent seat of justice in the new county, a commission composed of three men of other counties of Ohio came into Fulton in April, and after hearing arguments in favor of several small communities of the county decided to establish the county seat at its geographical center. Stakes were driven on that day, and the place was named Ottokee, at, it has been stated, the suggestion of Dresden W. H. Howard. The decision of the "locating commissioners" was submitted to a vote of the people of the county, and at the second polling their decision was upheld by a majority of the voters. Without undue delay, the work of constructing a building, at Ottokee, to serve the purpose of the court, and county administration, was undertaken, and in 1851 the legal processes, and county offices, were transferred to that building, the occasion being marked by appropriate addresses, and memorable festivities. In 1853 a jail was built at Ottokee.

On July 16, 1864, the court house was destroyed by fire, but in 1865 a new courthouse of brick stood upon the site of the old frame building.

With the passing of time, other communities, particularly Delta and Wauseon, became much more important, in point of population and potentialities, than Ottokee. The inaccessibility of the county seat eventually influenced the voters of the county to decide upon the removal of the seat of justice to Wauseon. Many elections were necessary before that became the will of the people, and the deciding election was by no means overwhelmingly in favor of Wauseon. It was secured only after a particularly strenuous effort had been made by its proponents, who distributed much elucidating material throughout the county shortly before election. Even then, it was asked that the people of Wauseon raise, by public subscription, a considerable sum of money, to recompense the county, in part, for the cost that a change of location of the county seat would entail. Wauseon met its pledge promptly, and seemingly without difficulty; and thus it became certain that as soon as suitable accommodation would be provided the seat of justice would be transferred to it. Elaboration of these happenings will be found on the pages of Chapter IV, and so as not to be tautological this review might end with the statement that since February, 1872, the legal processes of Fulton county have centered in

Wauseon, the present fine courthouse having been in that year opened.

The County Civil List, i. e., the succession of holders of the county offices of recorder, auditor, commissioner, treasurer, coroner, and surveyor, has been included in Chapter IV; this chapter, therefore might well be confined to recording of data regarding the judiciary and bar, e. g., to the tabulating of lists of those who have been elevated to the judiciary of the Common Pleas and Probate courts of Fulton county, and also the succession of prosecuting attorneys, clerks of court, and sheriffs.

The Court of Common Pleas. In 1851, the state adopted a new constitution, by which the judicial system was changed, its chief effect upon local procedure being the substitution of a district court for the circuit court. Under the Circuit Court system, the professional circuit jurist would be an itinerant, passing from county to county, and only being obliged to hold one term of court in each county yearly. He would be assisted by two or three local men, of non-professional class, who were appointed to act as his associates at local sessions of court. These associate judges were appointed by the governor of the state, but under the new constitution the associate judgeships were abolished, the state divided into nine judicial common pleas districts, and the judgeships became elective offices.

Thus Fulton county, in 1852, became part of the Third Judicial District, being included in that part which embraced the counties of Mercer, Van Wert, Putnam, Paulding, Defiance, Williams, Henry, and Fulton. So, it remained until 1868, and from that year until 1879, the local subdivision of the Third District covered Paulding, Defiance, Williams, Fulton, and Henry counties. From 1883 to ——, the local part of the Third Judicial District, embraced Fulton, Henry, and Putnam. For such parts, or subdivisions, of a judicial district, the new constitution provided for the election of three judges. Only members of the legal bar were eligible for election, and probate jurisdiction was separated altogether from the scope of the common pleas courts, the terms of which became semi-annual, instead of yearly. The new system provided for the election of three judges in each district, one of whom would hold common pleas court in one or more counties of that judicial district, and the three together would constitute a district court, which would function as a higher court, thus taking the place of the supreme court of the circuit system.

The first three judges of the Third Judicial District, beginning in February, 1852, were Lawrence Hall, Benjamin F. Metcalf, and John H. Palmer, the last-named taking all of the sessions of court in Fulton county during his term of office. Judge Palmer was succeeded in 1857 by Alexander S. Latty, of Defiance, who was re-elected in 1861, in 1866, and in 1871. In 1877, he resigned and was succeeded by Selwyn N. Owen, of Bryan. A change in the subdivision of the Third District, in 1879, necessitated an election, and John J. Moore, of Ottawa, became judge, holding office until 1884. In January, 1885, Walliam H. Handy, of Fulton county, was nominated for the office, and two days later appointed by Governor Hoadley. In the following October, he was elected without opposition, and re-elected in 1888, serving until 1894, when John M. Sheets, of Ottawa, was elevated to the judiciary, in his place. Judge Handy was the first resident of Fulton county to

hold a judgeship of the Common Pleas Court under the new constitution. Judge Sheets was succeeded in 1898 by Michael Donnelly, who was re-elected in 1903. Another change in the subdivisions of the Third District brought about the election, in 1904, of John M. Killets, of Bryan, who was succeeded by Charles Edwin Scott. Fred H. Wolf, the present able and respected incumbent, was elected in 1914, and took office in January, 1915.

Another change of constitution abolished the former district system, and latterly each county has been what might be termed a separate district, e. g., each county elects a judge from among its legal fraternity, and that attorney so elevated presides over its court proceedings, but has the privilege, in common with other members of the state judiciary, of sitting in the terms of other courts of the state, by invitation.

Probate Court of Fulton County. Prior to 1852, probate affairs were within the jurisdiction of the Common Pleas courts, but the new state constitution made provision for the establishment of a probate court in each county. The first to take office as judge of probate in Fulton county was Samuel Gillis. The next was Lucius H. Upham, who by the way was the first practicing attorney to take up permanent residence in the county. Attorney Upham, however, only held the judgeship for about one month, being unseated, S. H. Cately then becoming judge. Oliver H. Verity succeeded him in 1858, and held the office for twelve years, Caleb M. Keith taking his place in 1870, and continuing as judge until 1879, when Levi W. Brown came into office. He was twice re-elected, and his successor, Adelbert D. Newell took over probate jurisdiction in 1887. He was re-elected in 1890, but died a few months before the end of his second term. H. L. Moseley was appointed to the office for the unexpired portion of Judge Newell's term. On January 1, 1893, Thomas F. Ham took office. He served until 1900, his successor, Edward E. Williams, being probate judge until 1905. Fred A. Barber, a democrat, was elected by a good majority in 1904, and took office on January 1, 1905. He served as judge of probate for twelve years, being twice re-elected, notwithstanding that the county is strongly republican. In 1916 Allen M. Barber took the probate office; his term expires this year.

Clerks of Court. Samuel Durgin, of Fulton Township, was appointed clerk of the first Common Pleas court held in Fulton county, in 1850; and when, under the constitution of 1851, the office became elective, he was confirmed to it by election. His successors were: 1854, Naaman Merrill; 1861, Harry B. Bayes; 1863, Samuel Durgin; 1866, Truman H. Brown; 1869, Daniel W. Poe; 1872, Albert Devo; 1878, Albert B. Smith; 1887, James C. King; 1893, H. S. Bassett; 1899, Frank W. Wood; 1905, Ed. Scott; 1910, James C. King; 1914, Davis B. Johnson; 1919, George E. Gorsuch.

Prosecuting Attorneys. J. H. Read was appointed prosecuting attorney in 1850, when the first term of court in Fulton county was held. His successors, by election, have been: 1852, Michael Handy; A. Carmichael; Naaman Merrill; 1858, J. H. Brailey; 1865, J. W. Roseborough; 1867, Octavius Waters; 1869, J. W. Roseborough; 1873,

W. W. Touvelle; 1874, Michael Handy* (see foot-note); 1876, H. H. Ham; 1880, W. H. Gavitt; 1885, Mazzini Slusser; 1891, John Q. Files; 1897, William H. Fuller; 1902, Clive C. Handy; 1905, Fred H. Wolf; 1910, James B. Templeton; 1914, Charles Stahl; 1918, Clyde L. Canfield.

SHERIFFS. The first sheriff of Fulton county was George B. Brown of Chesterfield Township. He was elected in 1850. His successors have been: 1851, Chas. D. Smith; 1857, Marcus H. Hayes; 1861, Oscar A. Cobb; 1865, Jacob Huffmire; 1869, Joseph H. Brigham; 1873, Sullivan Johnson; 1877, Joseph H. Brigham; 1879, Harvey L. Aldrich; 1883, Frank T. Blair; 1887, Daniel Dowling; 1889, William J. Connell; 1893, Alfred F. Shaffer; 1897, James L. Shinnabarger; 1901, Henry H. Rittenhouse; 1905, James L. Shinnabarger; 1908, Fred Grandy; 1912, John B. McQuillan; 1916, William S. Boone. He resigned in June of present year, and John B. McQuillan was appointed to fill the vacancy and is the present incumbent.

*The foregoing conflicts with the information conveyed in "History of Fulton County," by Thomas Mikesell (1905); and the above rendering is shown because of notations made, in handwriting, by J. W. Roseborough, in his own copy of the Mikesell work. The notation read: "Hon. Michael Handy was, I think, elected in 1852, and held the office two terms in succession, but never again. J. W. R., 3. 3. 1906"; again he wrote: "J. W. Roseborough was elected prosecutor in autumn of 1864; took office 1st Monday in 1865; held it until 1st Monday in 1867. Succeeded by O. Waters, until 1869, then Roseborough again in office for two terms, 1869-73 (January)."

CHAPTER XXIV

MEDICAL HISTORY

The medical history of Fulton county has been separately told in the township chapters, so that only a brief reviewing is necessary here.

Fulton county, unlike some pioneer settlements, was a place of sickness, of pestilence and pain, in the days of early settlement. The swamps and damp places bred myriads of mosquitoes, and malarial troubles soon became an almost chronic distress among the pioneer. Whole families, nay whole communities, would be prostrated by ague and fever in the fall of the year, and even the medicines of the pioneer physician would have little effect. The history of almost all the early physicians was alike. They would be "jogging along the trails" through the forest, almost night and day, seeking to allay the distress among the settlers. Some must have cultivated the habit of sleeping while astride of their ponies; and few of them had what would nowadays be considered adequate recompense for their self-sacrificing labors.

One of the first physicians to settle in Fulton county was Erastus Lathrop, who settled in the small hamlet which developed a little to the westward of Delta. That probably was in the late '30s. The first frame house in the township was built for him, but both he and his wife died within a few months of their entering into possession of that house, in 1840. Closely following him were Drs. William Ramsey, S. P. Bishop, John A. Wilkins, and John Odell, biographical mention of whom will be found elsewhere. Dr. Ramsey is dead, but Doctors Bishop and Wilkins are still living, although both have transferred their respective practices to their sons.

William Bailey is stated to have been the pioneer physician of Metamora and Amboy Township. He settled about two miles west of Metamora. The first physician to live within the bounds of Metamora, however, was Doctor Pomeroy, who was in it at an early date, and certainly before 1849, when Lewis S. Hackett came. He lived in the only house that then stood west of the creek. He did not however practice many years, and the leading physician of Metamora, and Amboy, in a somewhat later day, but still in its pioneer period, was Dr. C. H. Heffron, who practiced until quite recently. One son is practicing in Metamora now, and another graduated in medicine this spring. Dr. G. F. Frasch, also, was in practice in Metamora for many years, and other physicians were Drs. S. M. Clark, Foster, Tompkins, and Markham.

Dr. Joshua Young was the pioneer physician of Royalton Township. For many years he was alone in that territory. Later, the majority of the physicians centered from Lyons. Of the medical practitioners of Lyons, mention might be made of Ezra B. Mann, H. H. Brown, J. Cunningham, Thomas Blain, G. R. Salisbury, C. C. Wood,

and Doctor Harroun. The last-named was a physio-medic, and had a large practice. Doctor Cunningham at one time lived at Phillips Corners.

The first physician to take up residence in Gorham Township was Dr. John Kendall, although his son, Dr. Amos Kendall really is more deserving of place as the pioneer physician of Gorham, for the father scarcely had set up in practice in Gorham, in 1839, before deciding to remove into Franklin Township, where he followed his profession for many years. Dr. John Kendall was one of the first associate judges of the Common Pleas Court of Fulton county. His son, Dr. Amos shares with Dr. Joseph Allen the pioneer place, as physician, in Fayette. In the early '50s there was a Doctor Davis at Cottrell's Corners, just beyond Fayette, but he did not remain long in the township. Dr. Van Buskirk was among the early physicians, as was Drs. Turrell. Dr. Estell H. Rorick has been in practice in the township, and has been one of its most skilful and respected physicians, but he has not been regularly in practice, having been called upon to undertake more important state responsibilities. His life is the subject of a special review elsewhere in this work. Other worthy Fayette and Gorham practitioners have been H. R. Van Buskirk, C. B. Herrick, Edson Emerick, Wm. D. Murphy, J. W. Evers, as well as those now in practice. Doctor Reynolds began to practice in Stryker, and a few years later settled in Fayette. Doctor Patterson has been there for some years, as has Dr. C. E. Hubbard. Doctor Murphy left a few years ago, after practicing for a long time. Drs. L. C. and L. H. S. Backus were well-known Fayette physicians, also; and Doctor Evers, a capable physician, graduate of Rush, was there for quite a number of years.

L. K. Carpenter was the pioneer in German Township. He was of the Thompsonian school. Then came Blaker, Winterstein, Schuetzler, and Murbach. Two sons of Doctor Murbach are now in practice in German Township. Doctor Hubbard, who was a Civil war veteran practiced for many years in German Township, and Dr. G. W. Hartman, now of Wauseon, was for thirteen years in successful practice in that township, removing to Wauseon in 1892. Doctor Coy has been in Archbold a few years, as has Doctor Preston.

Franklin Township records accord the place as pioneer physician to Dr. Ira Smith, who was in the township a year or so before the coming of Dr. John Kendall, in 1840; but just as the pioneer place in Gorham might well be given to Dr. Amos Kendall, because Dr. John Kendall only practiced there for a year or so, so might the premier place in Franklin be accredited to Dr. John Kendall, for he made that township his home, whereas Doctor Smith passed out of the record in a year or so. Doctor Schmidt is of record in the '60s, and later Doctor Wilson came from Stryker, and developed a remarkably wide practice. He died in Archbold.

In Pike Township history must come the record of Dr. William Holland, who settled there in 1843. He was then seventy-six years old, and had practiced in Massachusetts for almost fifty years; yet, it is said that he to some extent practiced in Pike Township, where he settled with his daughter, and son-in-law, Alfred A. Shute. J. W. Roseborough, an observing man, wrote of Doctor Holland as follows:

"Dr. William Holland, a man whom, in his old age, about 1856 or 1857, we saw and connected with, was a large man, not too fleshy; rather tall, dignified; of classical impression; much beyond the average in genial manners and address. He impressed us as a very superior man in point of culture, and knowledge, natural and acquired. We oft, when passing his quiet secluded home, wondered why, and how, it was that he lived in such a retired isolated country."

Another early physician of Pike was Robert A. Moore, and Dr. James S. Richards, known as the "Indian Doctor." Dr. S. B. Finney also had extraordinary success with his medical preparations. His patent medicines sold "at home and abroad, among all nations;" and he became wealthy.

Dover Township was a field in which Dr. Wm. Ramsey was busy in his early years of residence; and others from Delta and Wauseon travelled the trails, or waded through the mud, travelling the roads that seemed to have no bottom. Doctor Blaker was the first physician to take up residence, closely followed by Doctor Herreman, who was in residence as early as 1844. One of the most able physicians of the county was Dr. William Hyde, who practiced for very many years in Dover, centering from Spring Hill. Later he was of Pettisville and Wauseon, where he retired from professional work, finally going to Goshen, Indiana, to live with his son. Dr. Hyde was a remarkable man. He was a graduate of the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons, of London, England, the graduating requirements of which medical college were, probably, at that time very much more rigid than were those of this country, where medical colleges were few, and in their infancy. And he was a man of strong, bright, yet unusual character. It is said that he would practice medicine for a period, then would concentrate himself upon inventions, which he thought would bring him financial success. Invariably, he would be forced to take up medicine again, because of exhaustion of funds. His inventions brought him no profit, but his practice of medicine brought him an enviable reputation. He, upon his old pony, was a famliar sight in the early settlements and on the highways and byways of Dover Township. It is believed that Doctor Hyde, at least, slept while he rode. He was riding day and night. One of his sons belonged to the bodyguard of Abraham Lincoln, during the President's last days.

Other physicians of Dover were McCann, Gurley, Worden, Delano, Robinson, Schaffer, and Elv. Dr. Estell H. Rorick practiced in Tedrow for some time; Doctor Borden is now a specialist, ophthalmological and otological; and Doctor Campbell, of Wauseon, is a son of Dr. G. P. Campbell who used to practice in Tedrow, and earlier in Ridgeville. Doctor Jewell was a student with Dr. Wm. Hyde, and profited by that association.

The names of physicians prominent in Swan Creek, and that part of the county are: Bassett, Cosgrove, Lathrop, Brailey, Odell, Bishop, Wilkins, and Ramsey.

The doctors of Wauseon, the county seat, have been many. Doctor Hollister was the pioneer. He took up residence in Wauseon during its first years, when it was literally not much more than "a wagon road through the woods." Dr. N. W. Jewell, who was the first treasurer and second mayor of Wauseon, settled soon after; and Doctor Hyde

was also in practice in Wauseon in the '60s; while many of the physicians now practicing in the town have been practitioners for several decades. Doctor Bennett has been in practice for more than forty years in Wauseon; Doctor Miller has made it his centre for twenty-five years, and formerly was in practice in Pettisville, and earlier in Texas; Doctor Lenhart, who is the oldest practitioner of Wauseon, has had an office in the town for more than forty years; and Dr. G. W. Hartman has been in the town for almost thirty years, formerly practicing in Archbold. His son, Maj. C. F. Hartman, commander of the American Legion post at Wauseon, graduated in 1909, and practiced in Wauseon until the war came in 1917, when he was one of the first to leave. He saw overseas service, and was recommended for a lieutenant-colonelcy. Returning to civil life, he has resumed practice in Wauseon, and now is president of the Medical Society of Fulton county. Another capable Wauseon physician of meritorious overseas service is Captain Maddox, county chairman of the American Legion. He was in practice in Wauseon for many years prior to the war, and he is again in good practice in the county seat, where he is much respected.

The Fulton County Medical Society was organized on February 15, 1868, with nine charter members, namely: De Witt Hollister, N. W. Jewell, William Ramsey, S. P. Bishop, S. Hubbard, A. J. Murbach, S. F. Worden, William Hyde, and Josiah H. Bennett. There has since always been a medical society in the county, although it was inactive for many years. Fifteen or eighteen years ago its functioning became more active, and as at present constituted, it is an alert organization. Dr. S. P. Bishop was at one time president, and Dr. G. W. Hartman has been president. Their sons, Drs. C. F. Hartman, and Park Bishop, are now president and secretary, respectively.

There is an up-to-date public hospital in Wauseon. It was organized in 1903, by the physicians of Fulton county, and is controlled by the Wauseon Hospital Association. It occupies a commodious brick building, although at times its capacity has been sorely taxed. The first president was Dr. P. J. Lenhart, with Dr. A. J. Murbach, as secretary.

CHAPTER XXV

CHURCH HISTORY

The church history of Fulton county has been extensively reviewed in the appropriate township chapters; indeed, so much of the data gathered has been embodied in those chapters that very little remains that could, without tautology, be included in this general chapter, which will therefore take the character more of a gleaning of miscellaneous unrecorded data than of a comprehensive review, which is unnecessary, and for which there is now no available space.

METHODISM. The Rev. N. B. C. Love, who will be remembered by many in Wauseon, and throughout the county, contributed an interesting paper to one of the local papers. It was entitled "Methodist Memories," with a sub-head, "Old-time Camp Meetings, and Old-time Christian Workers." It refers to many of the pioneer itinerant ministers of the Maumee Valley, and should be placed in permanent record. The article begins:

"An old-time camp-meeting was a good institution, in its day. The first Methodist Church in northwestern Ohio was erected in Maumee City in 1837, during the pastorate of the Rev. Orrin Mitchell. This destitution of churches, of sufficient capacity to accommodate the people at the quarterly and other special meetings, was sufficient reason for holding camp meetings.

"Several circuits would unite under a presiding elder, and the circuit preachers. A central and desirable location would be selected. On the day appointed, preachers and laymen for thirty or forty miles around would assemble to prepare the grove, build tents of logs—the largest for the accommodation of the preachers included. This was built shed-fashion, the highest part of the roof next to the auditorium, which was composed of logs laid lengthwise, and 'slabs,' or split logs crosswise. The tents were built to enclose this auditorium. Sometimes an acre of ground would be thus enclosed.

"The rostrum, or speaker's stand was in front of, and attached to, the preacher's tent. This stand was a place of honor, and the first time the young circuit preacher found himself seated on the same long bench, with the great men of the church alongside of him, while he looked into the faces of hundreds, and sometimes thousands of people, he experienced, in spite of his humility, a 'swelling of the heart he never would feel again.' This seat of honor was occupied often by the great lights of Methodism.

"Inside the preacher's tent, occupying about one-half of it, was an elevated platform, composed of poles and slabs, which were covered with straw, and on this were clean and comfortable beds. Prominent was the home-made coverlette, woven in odd patterns of red, purple, blue, and white. This style of bedspread was very popular among the pioneer mothers. A few other comforts were furnished, such as look-

ing glass, comb, bucket of water, and towels. Here the preachers, not tenting on the ground, domiciled.

"Each preacher carried his own wardrobe in his saddle-bags, which were made of leather, and united together, so that they could be carried crosswise on saddle. This old-style double grip-sack often contained a few books for sale, such as the Discipline, Wesley's Christian Perfection and Sermons, Fletcher's Checks, and Baxter's Call. The Bible and Hymn Book were always in there when not in use.

"Many of the pioneer preachers were models of neatness in costume. They never suffered themselves to appear shabby, or unshaven. They wore no beards. Some of them wore their hair somewhat long, on the sides and back of the head, while in front it was cut square, just as the young ladies now wear 'bangs.'

"In all the tents there was morning and evening prayer, not of a perfunctory character, but 'they came from the heart and reached the heart.'

"The camp meeting was not only an opportunity for religious improvement, but social enjoyment. Conversation around the burdened dinner or supper table was sometimes grave and pious; at other times it took on a more lively character. The older preachers charmed the company with narration of incident and anecdote.

"The writer witnessed scenes of this character, when a boy attending with his parents camp meetings in Fairfield county, Ohio, on Rush Creek, and in Allen county, on Hog Creek. At the latter meeting, a few miles from Lima, Ohio, among the other prominent men was Wesley Brock and James B. Findley. The latter was an excellent conversationalist, and, like most old men whose lives were full of incidents, he was fond of relating them.....

"The singing was grand and melodious. Judged of, from the French or Italian standpoint, it may have been defective, but there was harmony, sweetness and power in it which, once heard, can never be forgotten. There was generally a precentor, who led, and was chosen because of his knowledge of music, and his power of song of the hymns sung to 'China' and 'Coronation' still linger, and the recollection of them is sweet.

"Sometimes religious fervor ran high, and ecstasy took hold of many of the worshippers. The preachers, as a rule, were careful to guard the people against 'wild-fire,' yet some would go into trances, catalepsy, and for a time apparently lose all consciousness. This was thought to be the result of the special bestowment of Divine Power....

"Many careless and hardened sinners, suddenly, awakened to a sense of guilt, were often stricken down, and 'powerfully converted,' and, returning to their homes subdued and believing, were as ready to work for the Master as they had been to oppose Him, when they went to the meeting.....

"Boarding tents at these primitive camp meetings were not needed, as each family brought large quantities of provisions, and 'were given to hospitality.' John Boughman, John Janes, and such men, would have ejected the boarding tent kept for mere gain. Peanut taffy candy, citric acid lemonade stands, would not have been tolerated for a moment by our pious pioneer fathers and mothers, on a camp ground.

" 'Fire stands' were built of poles and slabs, and were about four

or five feet square, and the same in height. These were placed in various parts of the encampment. Large fires were kept burning in them at night, until 10 to 12 o'clock. The light, at first bright and illuminating, would settle down to a glow of coals before morning....

"Rowdyism was not tolerated. The best order, as a rule, prevailed, although occasionally there would be some annoyance.

"The men and women were seated apart, and one of the worst offences was for some rowdy, with or without his girl, to be found on the women's side.....

"Rev. H. O. Sheldon.....was distinguished as a camp-meeting orator. He undertook to remove a rowdy from the grounds of a camp meeting, when he was struck by him and severely wounded. There were men then, as there are now, who thought it a great thing to disturb a religious meeting. These disturbances were rare, when the country was sparsely settled.

"Among the early camp-meeting preachers of the valley (Maumee) were John Boughman and John Janes. The former was a true evangelist and organizer, and the latter an able debater. He was presiding elder in the valley in 1838 and 1839. He is described as a man of medium height, dark brown hair, and black eyes. By nature, he was a leader of the people. He held camp meetings on Buttonwood Island, in the Maumee. This island is about two miles above Maumee City. There is now about an acre of ground in it, and it is covered with sycamore trees. The water is rapid at the foot of the island, but can safely be forded. Probably.....the island was larger (then) than at present, as the rise and fall of the Maumee River is much more rapid since the country on both sides, throughout its whole length, has been ditched.....Amaso Bishop attended one of these meetings, also Rev. R. H. Chubb.....The latter was distinguished .....as an able debater on theological subjects. Campbellism and Universalism were the foes he encountered, and not without success.

".....Leonard B. Gurley was presiding elder two years in the valley, 1836 and 1837. He was of Irish parentage. He was an easy and graceful speaker at all times.....and.....was universally loved .....We have never known any man more unselfish than he, and none more kind and forgiving.....

"Wesley Brock was presiding elder in 1840 and '41. He was a large man, with florid complexion, light blue eyes and hair slightly red. He was cross-eyed. He preached all over the valley, and his labors were abundant. His quarterlies were largely attended.....

"Thomas Barkdull, Sr., was presiding elder in the valley in 1845 and 1846. His fame is in all old Methodist homes as the eloquent Barkdull. He had great power over an audience, and was deeply pious.....He labored, as presiding elder, college agent and pastor, but was stricken down and died when the church was anticipating years of successful labor from him."

T. N. Barkdull was presiding elder of the Ottokee Circuit, Toledo District, Central Ohio Conference, in the '60s. The records of that circuit from 1863 to 1887 have been available for perusal, by present compiler. The Circuit was until 1884 part of the Toledo District of the Ohio Central Conference, and from 1863 until 1872 was designated the Ottokee Circuit, and embraced many church societies

throughout the county; in 1873 it became the Wauseon Circuit; in 1876 it was again called the Ottokee Circuit, and included societies at Ottokee, Spring Hill, Pettisville, Archbold, and Pike Center. In 1879, September, it became known as the Pettisville Circuit, and embraced societies at Pettisville, Spring Hill, Burlington, Archbold, and Ottokee. In August, 1884, it was attached to the Defiance District, and became known as the Archbold Circuit, including Archbold, Burlington, Ottokee, Pettisville, Spring Hill. The records of this circuit have been extensively reviewed in the Dover Township chapter of this volume.

MENNONITE. J. W. Roseborough, writing to the editor of the "Commerical," on September 29, 1873, stated:

"German Township, in this county, is one of the most populous and wealthy townships of the county. A large portion of the population consists of a class of people called Amish, a branch of the Mennonite Church. They are an industrious, law-abiding, money-making people, and have done much to make the township what it is—one of the finest in the northwest.

".....Their motto is 'non-resistance to evil.' So far do they carry this, that the major portion of them refuse even to vote, or hold office .....It has been truly said, that.....their virtues have been, in the main, of the negative kind.....If they have done no good, they have done but little harm.

"We are pleased to notice within the last few years that these people are becoming animated with a more liberal and active spirit. A few years since, they had no church building, many of them holding that it was wrong to have them. But now they have erected in German Township a very large and commodious house, where we think the largest number of people meet together, for the purpose of worship, to be found in the county. What is still more singular, as it is a still further advance in the right direction, is the fact that they have actually, during the last summer, organized and successfully conducted, a Sabbath school. Many were opposed to this move, at its commencement, but now, after trying it for several months, all are heartily advocating it. This Sabbath school has exerted a wonderful influence for good with both the old and the young of the Amish people. They have at the school a very large and increasing attendance. Rev. Jacob Nofsiger, one of the earliest settlers in the township and county, is the acting superintendent. This year's Sabbath school was commenced as an experiment, and has been a great success. Good order and progress has thus far attended it."

J. W. Roseborough was a life-long Methodist, and throughout his life contributed to local papers and periodicals upon religious, temperance, and political matters, wielding a forceful pen. He appears to have early written upon the Mennonite Church, for in the hands of the compiler, now, is a pamphlet, printed at the Republican Steam Job Office, Wooster, Ohio, in 1864, entitled "A Reply to the Criticisms of J. W. Roseborough, on the work entitled 'The Old Foundation,' by John Holdeman, V. D. M." Mr. Roseborough, however, later in life entertained a very high opinion of the Mennonites, his fellow-residents in German Township.

CATHOLIC. The following is extracted from Houck's "A History of Catholicity, in the Diocese of Cleveland," pages 305-06, Volume I, wherein is a historical review of St. Peter's Church, of Archbold:

"Mass was celebrated for the first time at Archbold in 1846, in the house of Francis Fleury by the Rev. Louis de Goesbriand, then stationed at Toledo. In 1850, the Rev. Louis J. Filiere, at that time pastor of St. John's Church, Defiance, organized the Catholic families in and near Archbold, as a mission, and had a small chapel erected about two miles from Archbold, as their place of worship.

"It related that Bishop Rappe, upon the occasion of his episcopal visitation, in 1868, slept in this chapel overnight. The pastor, Father Becker, had been expecting him, but did not know how, or when he would arrive, as it was well-known that he travelled often in a very apostolic manner. The bishop arrived at Archbold station about midnight, and found nobody to welcome him. Seizing his heavy valise, he started toward the chapel, two miles distant. When he arrived there, he found no priest's house near at hand. Thinking, perhaps, that even if he should find one, it would not be as comfortable as the chapel, he concluded to pass the night in the latter. Therefore, quietly raising one of the windows, he entered, and made himself as comfortable as possible under the circumstances. Next morning when Father Becker entered, he was much surprised to find the good bishop ensconced in the confessional, waiting for penitents."

The Catholic society is claimed to have been the first to build a church in German Township. Evidently, that pioneer church is the one above referred to.

DISCIPLES, OR CHRISTIAN, CHURCH. From an article written by Miss Olive Roos, of Wauseon, and formerly of Chesterfield, much information has already been written into church history of the township. She states that the pioneer founders of the Churches of Christ in Fulton county were Moses Ayers, Rev. Benjamin Alton, Rev. L. L. Carpenter, C. J. Blackman, Z. W. Shepherd, and James S. Riddle. One paragraph, not included in any township chapter, reads:

"In the year 1859 there was a move made by the Missionary Society of District No. 2, to do something toward starting a church in Franklin Township, with the result that Brother J. S. Riddle and L. L. Carpenter organized a church of twenty-two members, in that township. Brother Riddle took charge of this church and Sunday school, and remained in charge for twelve years, during which time the membership increased to seventy-five. In March, 1876, he resigned as elder of this church, and on June 11, 1876, he placed his letter of membership with the Spring Hill church."

The Rev. L. L. Carpenter, at one time treasurer of Fulton county, will of course always be considered as the outstanding pioneer of the Churches of the Disciples of Christ in Fulton county, where that sect, or denomination, of religious society is now quite strong.

The compiler of this work has been gratified in being able to gather so much church history of Fulton county, and has not stinted space in the township chapters, where all the information gathered has been given appropriate place.

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